



Anti-Communist mob seizes deputy premier

Government HQ stormed in Romania

By Christopher Walker and Tim Judah, Bucharest

Anti-Communist mobs stormed into the Romanian provisional Government's heavily guarded headquarters yesterday, briefly seizing the Deputy Prime Minister and chanting cries in favour of a "second revolution".

Armed troops stood by helplessly and unwilling to react. Some of the soldiers were weeping in despair at their dilemma.

The violence was the worst seen since the December revolution which overthrew the communist dictatorship of Nicolae Ceausescu, and put the future of the provisional government in jeopardy. It came less than 48 hours after the interim President, Mr Ion Iliescu, a former senior Communist, issued a desperate appeal for calm after narrowly averting a mutiny by sacking his defence minister.

By late afternoon a crowd of

at least 250 angry demonstrators had occupied the imposing Stalin-Gothic foreign ministry building on Victory Square which houses the offices of the ruling National Salvation Front. Most of its windows had been smashed and anti-Communist slogans daubed on the walls.

Second revolution 10

At one point the mob hurled stones and bottles at the building, parts of which were later ransacked and books burned.

During remarkable scenes of anarchy which are certain to have wide repercussions throughout the country, the occupiers jostled a senior member of the Front, Mr Gheorghe Voicu, the bearded Deputy Prime Minister, and called on him to stand down. The official looked terrified for his life as he was pushed and shoved by the screaming mob, but he was later rescued and put under special guard by soldiers inside.

Soon after 5pm, two men appeared on the imposing second storey balcony waving Romanian flags and one was seen to be beaten by the soldiers. Then came what sounded like a rifle shot and the crowd surged into the building, which by then was covered in slogans demanding the resignation of Mr Iliescu and the Prime Minister, Mr Petre Roman, another ex-Communist Party member.

Although some in the crowd appealed against the violence they were overruled by the hard core of demonstrators, some of whom had taken part in the street battles which led to Ceausescu's downfall. A symbolic sign was written on cardboard and tucked among the broken shards of glass on the window of a ground floor room. "The Ultimate Solution is another revolution", it stated.

As the mob stormed the building, they shouted "assassins" "assassins" at the tops of their voices. The emotion was evidence of the mounting concern at every level of society that Romania's revolution has been taken over by leaders who are Communists compromised by long years of association with Ceausescu.

Romanian television began showing occasional five-footing of the takeover with mobs screaming "Jos Iliescu" ("down with Iliescu") while soldiers lined the walls under glittering chandeliers and demonstrators made "V for victory" signs at the cameras.

The accompanying commentary was highly critical of the protesters, and by nightfall military reinforcements had been rushed to the area and supporters of the Front had begun gathering outside, calling the occupiers "terrorists", the code word now used to describe members of the feared Securitate secret police.

The attack, led by youths waving large Romanian flags, came during a mass anti-government demonstration in front of the building, which was ringed by some 400 troops and guarded by paratroopers and Soviet-built armoured personnel carriers. One of the infantry men told us that he kept his AK-47 assault rifle firmly behind his back: "I am



Demonstrators climbing on to the roof of the Government's headquarters in Bucharest

Ruling party set to win in Japanese election

From Joe Joseph, Tokyo

A year of political chaos in Japan that brought down two prime ministers looks like ending today, with early results from Japan's general elections yesterday appearing to guarantee the ruling Liberal Democratic Party a grudging mandate to continue its 35-year reign.

Meanwhile, the new Romanian Defense Minister, General Victor Stanculescu, promised yesterday to democratize the army and remove various military officials, as demanded by officers who forced out his predecessor.

General Stanculescu, in a televised interview, said he agreed with the views of officers whose four days of demonstrations led General Nicolae Militaru to resign on Friday.

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affair, which touched almost all of its elite.

But the party's good fortune owes as much to the innate conservatism of Japanese voters, their lack of surprise at their politicians' venality, and the absence of a credible opposition alternative.

The business world went to bed with an easier mind after weeks of anguish. Mr Eishiro Saito, chairman of the Japan Federation of Economic Organizations, said: "I can breathe a little easier now that political stability is secured, for the time being."

Although its majority has been cut, the Liberal Democrats' narrow victory will allow the party to claim that it has been forgiven for the entanglement of its leaders with the Recruit

Veterans bounce back 9

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Recruit scandal last year but who were able to join their constituency supporters in cries of "Banzai" (victory) last night.

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Japan Broadcasting Corporation, the state-run television network, and Kyodo, Japan's domestic news agency, both predicted the Liberal Demo-

cratic Party would be returned with a small majority.

Among those re-elected, kindling his hopes of a return to centre-stage, was Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, aged 71, the former Prime Minister. He headed a list of those "Grand Old Men" of Japanese politics who became entangled in the

strong consortium which is building the tunnel.

Eurotunnel will also make a

statement to the London Stock Exchange and the Paris Bourse to prevent panic selling of shares after a weekend warning by the chairman, M

But she added: "It is understandable that, for some, bitter memories of the past should colour their view of the present and future". And she insisted that German unification must take into account "not only the feelings of the two German states but the sensitivities and interests of others in Europe as well".

Unification, she said, had to respect existing treaties and agreements, including the commitments of the Helsinki Final Act which recognizes existing borders in Europe.

And in a clear warning that there should be no talk of

Exodus warning 10

The Prime Minister is prepared to voice the thoughts others prefer to whisper behind the scenes, and to slow down what she regards as the relentless drive led by Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor and Hans-Dietrich Genscher, his Foreign Minister, to sweep East Germany into reunification.

Yesterday she trod a careful line. After declaring before Christmas that German reunification was "not on the agenda", and suggesting that the process could take 15 to 20 years, Mrs Thatcher had moved a long way in saying yesterday: "There is no doubt that this coming together of the two parts of Germany is going to happen".

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return to 1937 boundaries, which included parts of Poland, she emphasised the word existing.

Mrs Thatcher also warned that the rights of the four powers in Germany had to be considered.

The essential, she insisted, was that the unification of Germany should not be allowed to make anyone in Eastern or Western Europe feel less secure.

Mrs Thatcher, who has already been depicted as a bitter enemy in the German press for spelling out her reservations over what she sees as an unseemly rush towards unification insisted that there were major ques-

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Fresh move to end Eurotunnel crisis

By John Bell, City Editor

Eurotunnel is to make its second management shake-up inside a week in an effort to end the financial crisis which is crippling the group.

The group will announce today that a senior executive from Bechtel, the US construction group, is to be appointed to the board. He will take over responsibility for the management of the construction project.

His appointment will almost certainly involve the departure of Dr Tony Ridley, the Eurotunnel director who only last week was put in charge of the construction project after a wide-ranging

strong consortium which is building the tunnel.

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Continued on page 22, col 1

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Prosecution service to be accused in Commons

By Jamie Dettmer

The Crown Prosecution Service will be accused this week by defence lawyers in a Commons select committee of incompetence, inefficiency and of causing unnecessary delays in the courts.

Representatives from the Law Society and the Criminal Bar Association will tell MPs on the home affairs committee that CPS staff are preparing cases badly and frequently failing to deliver files on time for trials.

The committee has heard evidence from police representatives which was highly critical of the CPS.

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The CPS, formed three

India orders Airbus grounded

From Coomi Kapoor, Delhi

The Indian Government has ordered the grounding of Airbus A320 aircraft after the Bangalore crash which killed at least 90 last week.

Indian Airlines is also expected to announce today that it will not take delivery of the balance of the current order, a further four A320s, or take up an option on a further 12 aircraft. The seven-day

grounding, pending investigation, follows criticism within India that the highly sophisticated aircraft with computer-controlled flight systems is unsuitable for the sub-continent.

British Airways, which has seven of the aircraft and a company representative in Bangalore, has not taken its machines out of service. Even

after the air crash in southern India on Wednesday snags have plagued the A320s, used by the country's domestic carrier, Indian Airlines. On Thursday an A320 bound for Madras from Hyderabad had a lucky escape at Hyderabad airport when an engine failed.

In at least three other cases problems with the A320 were reported by the weekend.

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Plastic bullets fired at football riot fans 'to avert massacre'

By Edward Gorman, Irish Affairs Correspondent

Police officers on duty at a football match in Belfast on Saturday would have been "massacred" had they not resorted to plastic bullets to quell violent supporters, the Royal Ulster Constabulary said last night.

Sixty-three people, including 48 police officers, were injured in sustained violence during an Irish Cup tie between Roman Catholic-supported Donegal Celtic and Protestant-backed Linfield.

A bomb planted close to the ground, apparently intended to kill police on crowd and security duty, was being dealt with by Army technical officers last night.

According to police, trouble started on the way to the ground when Roman Catholic youths from West Belfast threw stones and bottles at officers in the streets around the Windsor Park ground.

After a delay of 25 minutes, the game got under way but was punctuated by rioting between rival groups of supporters and between supporters and police.

At one point, Donegal Celtic followers in the Spion Kop section subjected police to a sustained 15-minute attack using stones, broken bottles and other debris. Officers responded by charging the crowd with batons before firing a number of plastic bullets.

A police spokesman defended the use of the plastic baton guns, which are normally reserved for street riots. He said it was not realistic to compare

hands on the police, they would have killed them."

The riot was the first episode in a sudden flaring of violence throughout the province at the weekend. Later on Saturday, four buses were hijacked and set alight by youths in West Belfast, two lorries were set on fire at Newry, Co Down, and three buses were burned during a raid on a bus depot at Armagh.

In south-west Belfast, a land

itself.

Mr Charles Haughey was given a personal boost yesterday when an opinion poll showed that half the Irish voters say he should be Prime Minister. It gives him a 23-point lead over Mr Alan Dukes, leader of Fine Gael, the main opposition party, against the five-point lead he had before last year's general election. The Irish Marketing Surveys poll showed increased support for Mr Haughey's coalition government.

Government sources cautioned that substantial progress was not expected and that the meeting would serve primarily as a chance for each side to set out its point of view to see if there had been significant movement since their last meeting in the autumn.

Mr Paisley and Mr Molyneux will also want some clarification of the Government's position after some ambiguous remarks by Mr Brooke in recent weeks.

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Mr Mackay of Clashfern, the Lord Chancellor, is to announce moves to lessen the domination of the highest ranks of the legal profession by white, middle-class, male barristers.

He is to table amendments to the Courts and Legal Services Bill to ensure that those with experience in promoting equal opportunities for the disadvantaged will play a role in deciding which lawyers have access to the higher courts.

The representatives are to have a guaranteed place on the independent advisory committee on legal education and conduct, a central plank of Lord Mackay's shake-up of the legal profession.

A spokesman for the Lord Chancellor said the move reflected his determination to see people from a wider background at the top of the profession.

The Lord Chancellor has also tabled an amendment to release peers who complained that plans to transfer cases from the higher to lower courts would overstretch the court system.

The amendment would also require him to make an annual report to Parliament on the business of the high and county courts.

In addition, Lord Ackner is to table an amendment to require the Lord Chancellor to give reasons if he approves the new advocacy rules. He also plans amendments to boost judicial membership on the new lay-dominated advisory committee.

However, Lord Mackay's spokesman said: "We are preparing an amendment to give judges a more informal role. They would be able to go to the advisory committee on a preliminary basis to put forward ideas. But the main structure of the committee will not be changed."

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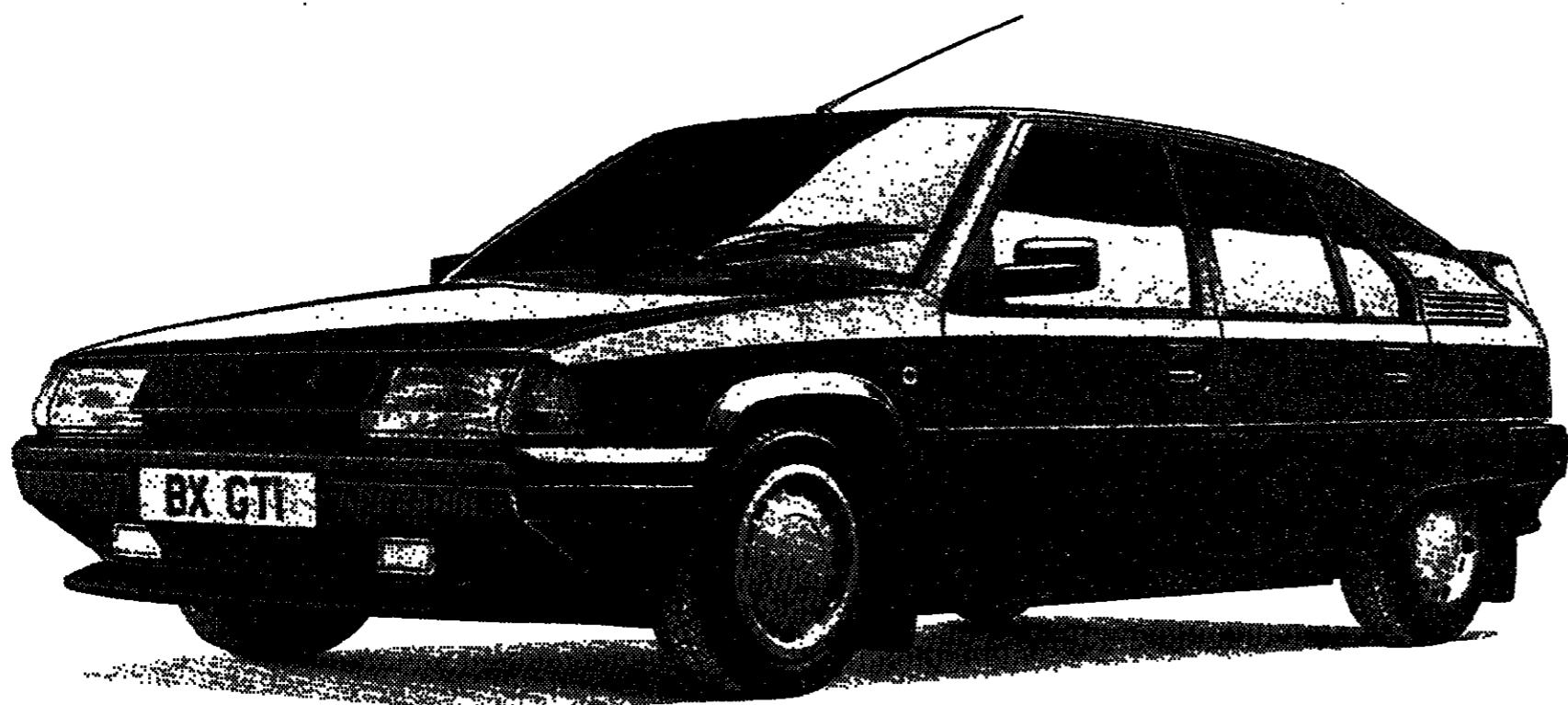
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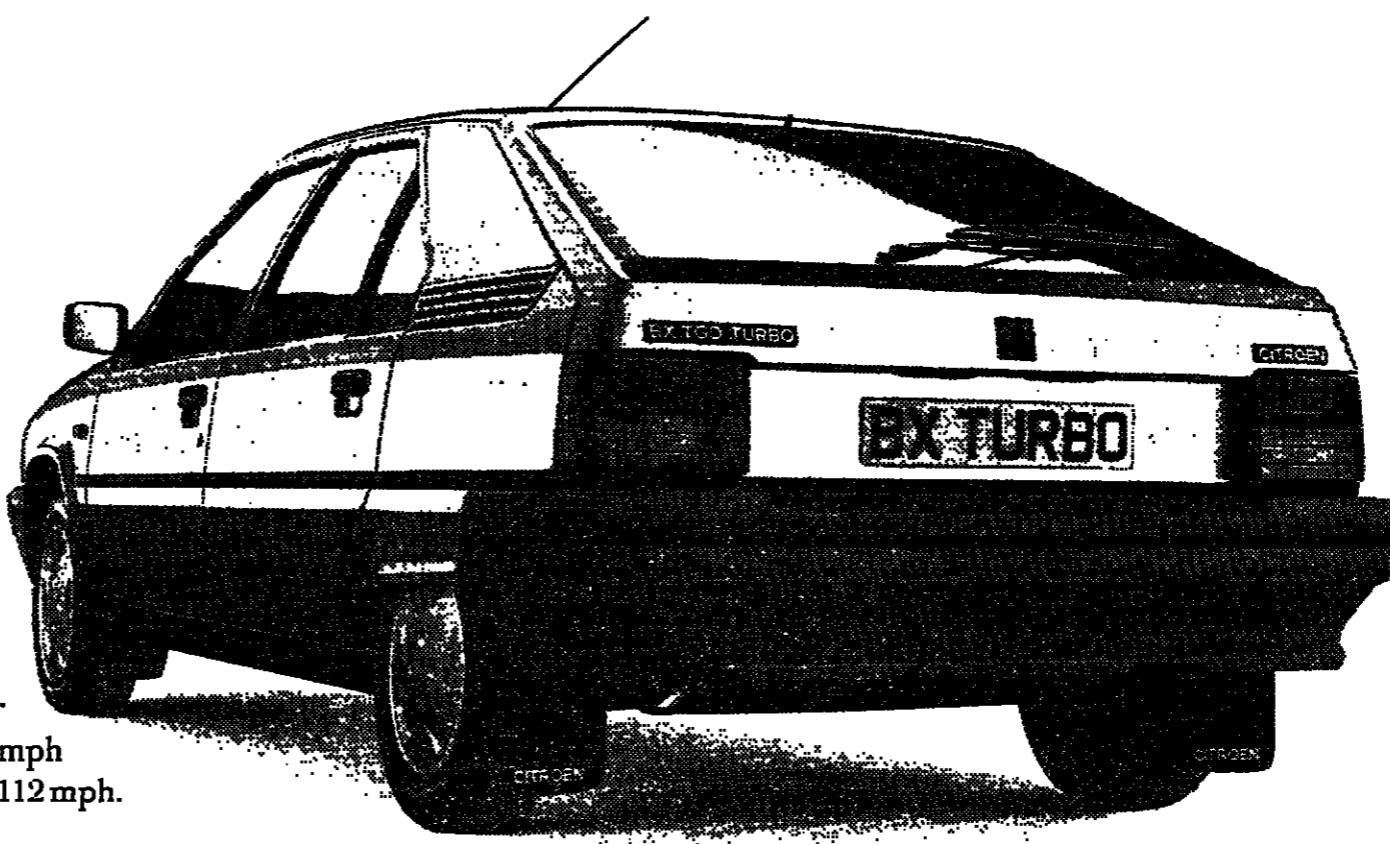
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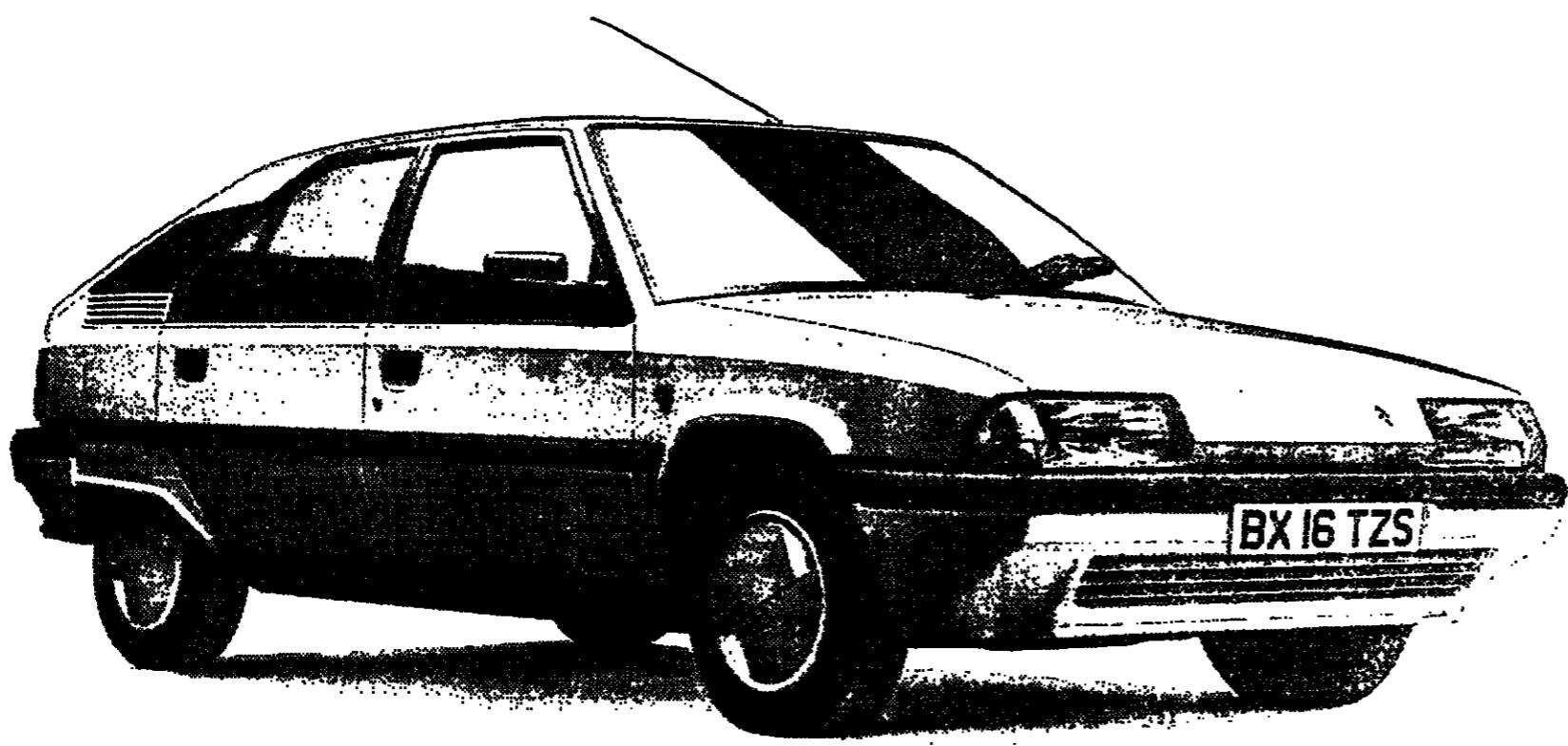
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مكتبة من الأصل

Army to review link between cold war end and recruiting

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

The Army, which will be faced by a shortage of 5,000 men by April, is to investigate whether the ending of the Cold War has encouraged soldiers to leave, sources said yesterday.

Quarterly figures, to be announced later this month, will show that by December 31, 1989, there was a shortfall of 4,874 trained personnel — 437 officers and 4,437 other ranks.

If the present net outflow of 200 a month continues, the shortage could amount to 5,000 to 5,500 by April.

Although the rate of premature retirement has fallen after a number of new initiatives, Army chiefs are worried that speculation over the future of Britain's armed forces is influencing soldiers to opt for civilian jobs.

Surveys carried out each month by the Army Personnel Research Establishment at Farnborough, Hampshire, to check on soldiers' attitudes to service life will, for the first time, focus on whether the changes in the Eastern bloc are encouraging men to leave.

Army chiefs are concerned about the continuing drop in manpower levels. In some

specialist areas, such as signals, there is a 7 per cent shortfall.

While recruiting remains steady, due to an expensive advertising campaign, retaining officers and men is a problem, in particular, recruits who give up after a taste of Army life. However, recent changes in the training regimens have produced results.

Last year, training depots throughout the country were ordered to adopt more understanding regimens for recruits after a spate of bullying incidents in the past two years.

One source said yesterday: "In the old days we tried to turn a young civilian into a soldier on the first day. Today we realize that is too rude a shock. Young people are not as robust as they used to be, so we make the adjustment easier."

Training has been extended from 10 weeks to 12 and recruits are handled more sympathetically. More time goes on explaining army methods.

The result is that 25 per cent more recruits are completing their training. In the tougher atmosphere of The Parachute

Regiment training depot at Aldershot, it is claimed that the different approach has meant that up to 60 per cent more recruits are completing the course.

Other changes include:

- An end to the infamous "bed blocks" ritual, in which recruits had to fold their sheets and blankets in a certain way and place them neatly in a bundle on the bed.

- Recruits who own cars and motorcycles may now drive them in and out of the barracks. Previously they were barred.

- Recruits are also allowed home more often during training than the past.

"By being more understanding in the first two weeks of a recruit's life in the Army, we find we can cut down on wastage," a source said.

The present requirement for a fully trained British field army is just over 140,000. That excludes the 16,000 who are always in the course of training and the 8,000 Gurkhas. However, with the net outflow of officers and men standing at 3.4 per cent, the total trained strength is now only about 135,000.

Villagers help fight to save a vanishing beach

CRISPIN RODWELL



The beach at Cusshendun, Co Antrim, where for half a century farmers, invoking their "traditional rights", had removed sand and gravel to make concrete blocks for building their sheep pens and cow sheds. The result was the loss of the beach at a rate of 3ft a year (Libby Jakes writes). Now

the National Trust and the villagers have agreed on a unusual scheme to save the beach.

The trust, owner of the beach and much of the village, has decided fund a £2,000 a year scheme to provide an indefinite supply of building sand. It will be stored in a depot near the beach

and available free. "This is a great victory for the people of Cusshendun," Miss Diane Harron, for the trust, said. "By allowing the freezing of their claimed traditional rights and using the sand and gravel the trust is providing, they are taking the most effective steps to save their beach."

Dr William Carter, an erosion specialist, had warned a public meeting in the church hall last week that the road and cottages near by were at risk. A fence around the hurling field had been moved back three times in the past five years as the ground disappeared beneath it, he said.

Family structures

First-born likely to take orthodox view

From Pearce Wright, Science Editor, New Orleans

In families with several children, the first-born is likely to have orthodox views while younger members are more receptive to radical ideas, according to a two-decade study of 2,780 people.

Scientists who represent the various contemporary views of evolution were included in Dr Sulloway's studies. He measured 80 variables for the participants in 28 large scientific controversies over 450 years.

He noted that one of Darwin's key defenders, Thomas Huxley, had a high probability of endorsing the theory when the method of analysis was used. By the same token, one of Darwin's key critics, John Herschel, a first born, also fitted the Sulloway analysis.

Professor Sulloway added that his theory of birth order may apply to other historical revolutions, with "later borns", for example, leading the Protestant Reformation of 1517 to 1570, and even among divisions within families of European political leaders.

He said that while the theory predicted attitudes towards innovation, "it will not tell you whether that innovation is a correct theory or not".

He claimed his model could be used to predict or influence the outcome of a committee reviewing a scientific innovation.

The return in epidemic proportions of the scourge tuberculosis to Western inner cities and Third World countries was predicted yesterday by medical experts.

Dr John McGowan, of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases at Bethesda, Maryland, said two decades of effort that brought TB under control was in danger of being thrown away.

The upward trend began after 1977, and the rise in TB is said to be linked to infection by the Aids virus.

Views from two experts on theories of modern human origin were presented to the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr Christopher Stringer, from the Natural History Museum in London, used genetic

to suggest that modern man spread out of Africa 150,000 to 200,000 years ago. He also said racial differences in appearance only developed about 20,000 years ago, provoked by environment.

Professor Milford Wolpoff, from the University of Michigan, belongs to the orthodoxy school and rejects most of the latest ideas. He opposes the new theory based on genetic evidence called the "Garden of Eden" hypothesis, which

is supported by a number of geneticists.

Mr Francis Foecke, an American student, today enters the final round of his three-year battle to clear his name of the charge of cheating in his final degree examinations. A special appeal hearing sits at Bristol University's Senate House to consider detailed allegations of "irregularities".

At a December hearing Mr Ian Karsten, barrister for the board of examiners, said Mr Foecke's papers had some "bizarre" coincidences, including a piece of "gobbledygook" in the same place as in the examiner's model solution.

Rival for Coe

The Labour Party yesterday selected Mr John Cosgrave, a teacher, to challenge Mr Sebastian Coe for the Falmouth-Camborne constituency at the next general election. The Liberal Democrats will select their candidate next month.

Rail fan lost

The hunt for Mr Graham Nutall, aged 42, from Burnley, Lancashire, a railway enthusiast missing for several days, is being centred on the Elan Valley in south Wales.

Bond winners

National Savings Premium Bonds weekly prize draw winners are: £100,000, number 20SB 226891, from Worcester; £50,000, number 29CT 265298, from East Sussex; £25,000, number 10SK 040395, from Dudley.

TV gun theft

Several hundred pounds and a shotgun were stolen from the set of the Yorkshire Television "soap opera" *Emmerdale Farm* in Farsley, Leeds.

Club for sale

Harrods is to sell its sports club, a Victorian mansion set in 27 acres for £5 million after planning permission for a leisure complex was refused.

Risk to birds

Some 800 rare birds are at risk after their sanctuary at Trispen near Truro was ordered to close yesterday.

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USAir

Service short of 465 lawyers

The CPS has dealt with five million cases in three years. It has discontinued or withdrawn 256,000 cases.

There is a wide variation in the discontinuance rates across the country, ranging from 4 per cent to 19 per cent.

It is not the case that the area with the lowest discontinuance rate has the best conviction rate.

In reviewing cases Crown prosecutors are meant to weed out weak cases, be fair to the accused and save court time and expense.

Since its formation the CPS has been seriously understaffed. Most of the 30 CPS administrative areas have never been fully staffed.

Despite several recruitment initiatives, the CPS is still short of 465 lawyers — which is 23 per cent of its required complement.

Because of the staff shortage, nearly £15 million was spent last year by the CPS on payments to non-staff lawyers (agents) to conduct cases.

Last year, 35 per cent of all CPS cases were prosecuted by agents.

The CPS has only slightly improved on the conviction rates achieved by the police for defendants who plead not guilty in crown courts.

Last year, 47 per cent of defendants who entered a plea of not guilty were acquitted, in 1987 it was 50 per cent and the year before it was 52 per cent.

Before the CPS was formed, the average acquittal rate was 48.3 per cent. Last year Sir Patrick Mayhew, the Attorney-General, had said: "If there was a 50 per cent acquittal rate, the CPS would be accused of wasting taxpayers' money and not doing its job properly."

Spokesmen for the service deny that there is any feud between the police and the service, and they argue that talk of a "crisis" in the CPS is overplayed.

However, the evidence submitted to the Home Affairs Committee by the Association of Chief Police Officers was described by one MP as "bitter, not to say bitchy."

In its evidence to the Home Affairs Committee, the Criminal Bar Association said that it had found that 90 per cent of its members thought the prosecution system was worse under the CPS than before its creation.

Crown prosecutors say that many of mistakes in cases and delays in the courts are the result of the inefficiency of the Crime Support Units, civilian-staffed police groups responsible for passing on files, evidence and information to the CPS. Some prosecutors believe that the units should be done away with and that a new link between the police and the CPS established.

The CPS did not contact him about changing the charge and that when later remonstrated with a station sergeant the Crown prosecutor indicated that:

1. The defendant had pleaded not guilty to both original charges and elected crown court trial;

2. In cases of actual bodily harm on police officers where the defendant has pleaded not guilty a general policy of the CPS is to reduce the charge to assault.

Spokesmen for the CPS deny that there is any feud between the police and the service, and they argue that talk of a "crisis" in the CPS is overplayed.

Some prosecutors believe that the units should be done away with and that a new link between the police and the CPS established.

While the CPS has been attempting to keep the lid on the conflict with the police, officers are less restrained.

One Police Federation official described the CPS at a conference as the "Criminal Protection Society."



Miss Beatrice McCauley-Slowe, a Crown prosecutor at Camberwell court, plodding through piles of paper before starting her day's work.

Police and prosecutors locked in 'a state of war'

A Commons select committee has been investigating the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) since January 31 and is due to renew taking evidence on Wednesday. The three-year-old service has been described as "a shambles" with its reputation "at crisis point". Jamie Dettmer reviews the evidence and reveals the depth of bitterness between the police and the service.

The CPS has been under attack since it was launched in 1986, particularly from the police. Senior prosecutors say that springs from police resentment at losing their traditional prosecuting rights.

The service has had little success in improving conviction rates and has been attacked by magistrates, defence lawyers, court clerks and the judiciary for wasting court time by making frequent legal and clerical errors.

The CPS says that many of its mistakes are caused by lack of police co-operation and by the incompetence of officers.

Mr Allan Green, QC, the Director of Public Prosecutions, told the Home Affairs committee that some officers obstructed the work of the CPS and said the service "was a bitter pill for certain police officers", but he denied it amounted to "a feud".

However, Police Federation officials receive dozens of complaints about Crown prosecutors from junior officers, many of whom are new to the police and who bear no ill-will to the idea of an independent prosecution service.

Officers complain about:

• The reluctance of Crown prosecutors to proceed with theft and burglary cases based just or mainly on fingerprint evidence;

• The tendency to avoid court proceedings in juvenile crime;

• The alacrity to accept and

Case of the missing files and witnesses

The police sergeant in the witness box was taken aback by the question from the flustered Crown prosecutor: "You do know why you are here?" The magistrate was also unsure of this line of questioning and the defending solicitor looked surprised.

A ripple of smiles greeted the next request: "Perhaps, you could tell the court why you are here... because I don't know if I cannot find the file."

It was just another occasion of the Crown Prosecution Service mislaying a file.

The complaints include inadequate background material and information; surrounding circumstances and officers' opinions often not included; list of known witnesses often incomplete; summary of facts often poor, but frequently illegible in any case; details of compensation frequently missing; rarely any investigation of assertions/defences raised by defendants; either late or no response to CPS letters requesting further evidence or further investigations.

Like Crown prosecutors up and down the country, she had arrived in court with a huge pile of cases. Unlike the defence lawyers, who only had a couple of cases each to deal with, Miss Saw, who declined

to be interviewed, had to cope with a full day in court, turning her mind from motoring offences to drunks to theft and burglary.

The atmosphere in Court No 1 became stuffy and close as Miss Saw ploughed on. The bustle at the back of the court did not deflect her as she picked up the threads of cases that had been adjourned from other hearings because of missing files or missing witnesses.

One welcome diversion came when one of the area's well-known drunks, who had appeared before another bench the previous day, was asked: "How much money do you have in your pocket?"

"Fifteen pounds, sir." "Fined £15, then."

Not all the cases went that smoothly. Statements and information were regularly missed from files.

In one case of criminal damage in a public house, the name of the owners was missing and a delay was caused while a police officer telephoned the public house to discover to whom the compensation order should be made out.

In another case, the offender who was thought still to be under a probation order for another offence turned out to have no such order outstanding.

According to defence lawyers, the frequent delays in print-outs from Swansea are

another example of the creaking criminal justice system — the results of inefficiencies at the licence centre, in the CPS and in local police forces.

In another case, a defendant was put on remand for the third time because a statement was missing from the file.

"Wasting the court's time," muttered the magistrate, who seemed reconciled to the slow pass of justice.

But his equanimity was disturbed later in the morning when a case had to be dismissed because of a clear error by the CPS in failing to get an essential statement.

The case, concerning two men who were accused of stealing a credit card, collapsed because of the lack of a statement from the "loser".

After weeks of being asked by the CPS to provide a statement from the loser, the police discovered that the victim had moved to Canada. The police gave up.

The CPS failed to realize that a statement from the credit card company would have sufficed.

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هذا من الأصل

De Klerk likely to meet ANC team within month

From Gavin Bell, Johannesburg

Peace talks between the South African Government and the African National Congress are expected to begin within a month, amid optimism that both sides are prepared to compromise on obstacles to wider negotiations on a new constitution.

Official sources in Pretoria expect President de Klerk will give the go-ahead for the meeting early this week, following a decision by the ANC to send a high-ranking delegation to confer with him.

The timing of the historic encounter is uncertain, but it seems likely both sides will wish it to take place before March 21, the date set for Namibia's accession to independence from South Africa. Both Mr de Klerk and Mr Nelson Mandela, the veteran ANC leader, are expected to attend the celebrations in Windhoek, the Namibian capital, and would wish to do so as partners in the quest for peace in their own country.

Dr Gerrit Viljoen, the Minister for Constitutional Development, said the Govern-

ment was still studying Friday's announcement in which the ANC said it was ready to negotiate a suspension of hostilities once obstacles to negotiations have been removed.

Professor Wim de Klerk, the President's elder brother, who has emerged as an important conduit between the two sides, said at the weekend: "Everything is going according to plan. I personally expect the result of the meeting will be positive."

Professor de Klerk, a liberal Afrikaner academic with long-standing contacts with ANC leaders, said he was convinced the organization was serious about coming to the negotiating table. "The slight accent still on violence and the armed struggle is so secondary that the question is academic, and not one of content. I think it was an outstanding step for them to ask for a meeting. They want to sit down and talk business."

High on the agenda will be ANC preconditions for negotiations, notably the release of

all political prisoners and an end to the state of emergency, and the Government's insistence that the organization give a clear commitment to peace. Significantly, both Mr de Klerk and Mr Mandela said last week that "everything is negotiable".

Mr Andrew Mlangeni, one of Mr Mandela's fellow treason trialists who was released last October, said at the weekend: "I can only assume some provisions in the Harare Declaration (setting out ANC preconditions) are negotiable. I think everything is open to negotiation, really."

Despite fundamental differences between the two sides, on both political and economic policies, government sources are encouraged by the mutual respect which has developed between Mr de Klerk and Mr Mandela, as well as the high regard which the ANC leader has expressed for two senior cabinet ministers closely involved in the process - Dr Viljoen and Mr Kobi Coetsee, the Minister of Justice. It is also regarded as

fortunate that three of the four are trained lawyers, while Dr Viljoen is an academic and philosopher who is said to have the keenest intellect in the Cabinet.

The ANC announcement left a question mark over Mr Mandela's role. For almost 30 years the governing National Party has been wondering what to do with Mr Mandela, and now apparently it is the ANC's turn. Despite close questioning, the collective ANC leadership in Lusaka left his position vague.

ANC sources said later the delegation to Pretoria would probably be led by Mr Alfred Nzo, the acting chairman, supported by Mr Thabo Mbeki, the organization's foreign affairs specialist, and Mr Pallo Jordan, its chief of information. It is inconceivable that Mr Mandela will be excluded from the talks, although his public role may be that of senior adviser, in accordance with his own self-description as a "loyal and disciplined" ANC member.

Intelligent Afrikaner, page 12

Natal feuds keep hearse busy

From Nicholas Beeston, Imbali, Natal

The busiest road on a weekend afternoon in these parts is the dirt track that leads to the Azalia cemetery on a hilltop with a spectacular view over this black township outside Pietermaritzburg, the capital of Natal province.

The ancient black-painted American station wagons converted into hearses run a shuttle service for the black youths killed in the week's violence between the radical United Democratic Front (UDF), which supports the African National Congress, and Inkatha, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi's conservative Zulu movement.

Last week was particularly busy for the undertakers, with scores dying, most of them young. From members killed while celebrating the release of Mr Nelson Mandela, the veteran ANC leader.

When they came to bury Uvusi Ntombela, aged 17, his family, friends and "Comrades" from the UDF had to queue to let other mourners bury their sons and daughters before lowering his coffin into

the ground. "My brother was killed by Inkatha, and then his son, and now they have killed my son as well," the boy's father said, almost resigned to the brutality which in five years has claimed up to 3,000 black lives in Natal.

His son was shot dead by Inkatha supporters eight days ago when young UDF "Comrades" turned out in their hundreds to celebrate Mr Mandela's freedom.

In theory, the conflict is a political battle for control of the Zulu people in Natal. Traditionally they support Chief Buthelezi, whose power has been eroded over the past five years by the democratic front.

In practice, however, the conflict is more confused and self-perpetuating, as criminals take advantage of the lawlessness and the two sides become embroiled in vendettas and revenge killings.

At Ntombela's graveside the Methodist Reverend Ezra Ngobeni delivered a short sermon calling for restraint and peace. He was running late for

another funeral, however, and the mourners' minds had already turned to the next battle.

An elderly woman delivered a fiery speech naming the suspected Inkatha killer and calling for revenge. The "Comrades" responded by chanting ANC liberation songs, oblivious to the possibility that they could soon join their fallen classmate.

The penalties for killing a white person are far more severe than for killing a black, so if I intervene there is a good chance I can stop the violence," she said.

About a mile away grey smoke rose through the evening drizzle and a telephone call from an elderly resident in the area reported that a house was on fire.

During the evening Mrs Foushe was also shot at, investigated a shooting and took down the details of threats made against a woman by an Inkatha "war lord".

"It has been quite a busy night," she said. "I feel I have nearly accomplished something if I don't see any dead bodies when dawn comes."

and only one house remained conspicuous with its doors wide open and its lights on.

Inside it sat Mrs Fidele Foushe, aged 59, a middle-aged white volunteer and chairman of the Black Sash civil rights group in Natal. She was taking a phone call from a distressed neighbour whose house had come under fire.

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Hockey fans put to flight



Police dispersing ticketless fans who wanted to attend the World Cup hockey match between The Netherlands and India at a stadium in Lahore at the weekend. The clash preceded an attack on Indian players by students armed with sticks and stones and inflamed by the recent violent confrontations in Jammu and Kashmir (Reuter reports). Jammu and Kashmir has been governed as a state of India but contested by Pakistan since Partition. The World Cup incidents follow Delhi's crackdown on the Muslim independence movement in the state. Pakistani authorities tightened security on the World Cup yesterday after the protesters twice interrupted the contest in which The Netherlands defeated India 5-3. Officials of

the International Hockey Federation had threatened to call off the tournament if such incidents continued and held an emergency meeting with the local organizing committee. The authorities agreed to deploy more police at the stadium and bar spectators from stands behind the players' seats during all Indian matches, hockey officials said. These stands were closed yesterday when India played Australia and there was no incident, the officials said. The flags of all 12 participating countries were removed from one side of the stadium yesterday so that none could be pulled down by protesters, but those on the main pavilion continued to fly.

England fail, page 39

Japan's veteran bounces back

From Joe Joseph
Tokyo

After campaigning like a nervous newcomer, Mr Yasuhiro Nakasone, the former Japanese Prime Minister who dreams of being a future Japanese Prime Minister, beamed with relief as he arrived at his campaign headquarters in the city of Takasaki, in the mountains of Gunma, north of Tokyo.

Waving his right fist through the chilly air in triumph at his just-announced re-election, he swiftly swapped the long-faced humility he had shown to voters on the campaign trail for his familiar imperious sneer.

Mr Nakasone's fortunes were being closely followed not only because he is one of Japan's best-known elder statesmen. His race had turned into a litmus test of whether the Recruit bribe affair was to become just another of the nation's many postwar political bribery scandals or the one that finally proved too much for voters to stomach. The Japanese have adventurous appetites and seemingly resilient stomachs.

Mr Nakasone, now 71, led a roll call of the grand old men of Japanese politics who had become entangled in the Recruit mess last year but had survived to join their constituency supporters in cries of "Banzi" last night.

Taking his win as absolute for his links to Recruit, a traditional Japanese interpretation of the cleansing power of elections, Mr Nakasone told his supporters: "I don't know how to express the gratitude I feel. It's been a very hard battle, the most decisive of my political career. Thank you for helping me."

He later told the reporters he had doubted throughout his campaign, for fear they would nag him about Recruit: "The issue of Recruit has been settled. This election was the final judgement of the people and I passed the test, which means, I think, the issue has been settled. The people of Gunma have made the right decision and I regard it as the voice of the people of Japan."

Mr Takao Fujinami, the one MP actually on trial for taking bribes from Recruit, was also re-elected.

Aoun uses ceasefire to get troops out from key post

From James Pringle
Hanoi

Mr Francis Maude, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, flew into Hanoi yesterday ready to offer British aid if Vietnam will allow the Hong Kong Government to send more boat people home.

The hopes of Britain and the Hong Kong administration of averting another huge influx depend on the talks which he is to have over the next three days.

Unless Hanoi clears the way for more mandatory repatriation flights, officials believe large numbers of north Vietnamese villagers will begin boat journeys next month. The flights are seen as the only effective deterrent.

The talking is likely to be tough, despite an offer Mr Maude is to make to help pay for new reception facilities for returning boat people. He is

also expected to hold out a prospect of a larger aid programme later, ending the British Government's previous refusal to assist the country.

However, reports that he went to Vietnam with an aid

package already prepared were denied yesterday by Whitehall sources, who also dismissed suggestions that as much as £100 million could be on offer. It is thought in Hanoi that £2 million is more likely.

Vietnamese officials are critical of the handling by the British and Hong Kong governments of the previous mandatory repatriation flight on December 12.

Hong Kong was unable to meet a demand by Hanoi for no publicity, although 51 boat people were released from their beds by police at night in an attempt to avoid photographers.

The Vietnamese sources, stung by the bad publicity which followed, said that the flight was "not a success".

British and Hong Kong sources have replied that they could not have done more

without limiting the freedom of the press.

If Vietnam accepts the aid offer, it will be the beginning of the end of an embargo imposed by the US and its allies following the Vietnamese invasion of Cambodia in late 1978. The only other Western nation to break the embargo so far has been Italy.

While Britain's move may anger Washington, London has nothing to lose.

The US Administration blocked a 29-nation agreement nearly reached in Geneva last month, which would have approved the mandatory repatriation policy subject to a six-month delay.

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Mr Maude: Will be meeting returned boat people today.

Nor was that the end of Mr

Boat people abandon dreams to return to their villages

From James Pringle
Hanoi

Tuong's troubles - he was among the 51 "economic migrants" who were sent home on the first, and so far only, mandatory repatriation flight last December.

Now he is back in his poverty-stricken village of Dong Deng, without his fishing boat and wondering what to do next. For the time being he has moved in with his mother-in-law.

Mr Tuong enjoyed a brief moment of fame when he was visited this week by Mr Emrys Davies, Britain's Ambassador to Vietnam, who made the arduous drive north in foul weather to see him. Mr

Davies or other embassy staff have called on most of the 51 people.

"Hanoi feels isolated from the rest of the world, and Dong Deng is tremendously isolated from Hanoi," he said.

"It was a cart track most of the way and the countryside around Dong Deng is pretty poor. This is the kind of area from which the economic migrants come from and which could benefit from development projects."

But at least Mr Tuong has

received the equivalent of £120 from the British Government in

compensation. Miss Hoang Thi Thao, aged 29, a seamstress, is one of the voluntary returnees. In her family's home here is a colourful poster of an American girl against a background of high-rise hotels and apartments in Waikiki Beach, Hawaii. "That was my dream," she says, indicating the picture.

After eight months in a camp in Hong Kong, she saw there was no future there. While she has received some compensation from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees since returning, life has not been easy.

Some neighbours have been abu-

sive, she said. They say such things as "you left for Hong Kong but now you are back - you didn't keep your promise", "it was silly to go to that place that has no future".

Asked if she would return to the West again as part of an orderly departure programme, and by air, she said: "Yes, I would go again by plane - but never by boat again."

Miss Vu Thi Hien, aged 22, left here last May returning only three days ago on the latest voluntary repatriation flight. Although she had a good job in the camp, she chose to return despite the fact that her parents remained in the camp.

Some neighbours have been abu-

Aoun uses ceasefire to get troops out from key post

From A Correspondent, Beirut

The embattled Christian army of General Michel Aoun yesterday took advantage of a ceasefire to evacuate some 400 of its elite troops from a key army post and helicopter base north of Beirut, leaving rival militiamen in control of a vast region north of the capital.

But General Aoun refused to see the pre-dawn evacuation as a setback and said that his commando unit, after repelling advances by the rival Lebanese Forces militia for 17 days, had regrouped with other army ranks.

The Lebanese Forces militia of Mr Samir Geagea and army troops loyal to General Aoun have been fighting since Janu-

ary 31 for supremacy in the Christian enclave of central Lebanon where about a million Christians live.

olution

COMMUNISM IN CRISIS

China loyalty call shows unease over armed forces

From Catherine Sampson, Peking

Articles demanding that the military devoted itself to the Communist Party filled the pages of the *Liberation Army Daily* newspaper yesterday, reflecting increasing nervousness on the part of the Chinese leadership about the loyalty of the armed forces at a time when it may need them more than ever.

Sources say that some 3,000 officers are under investigation by military tribunals for refusing to obey orders during the bloody military crackdown last June, and that Lieutenant-General Xu Qin-xian, of the 38th Group Army, is in prison.

Last week, the entire leadership of the People's Armed Police, a branch of the Army, was replaced. No official explanation was given, but many Chinese assumed it was "to make the leadership more reliable, of course".

The Armed Police is, in large part, made up of demobilized soldiers. They too took part in the Peking massacre last June.

Keeping control of the Army has, especially since the Romanian revolution, become a serious worry and a high priority. The leadership is clearly asking itself whether the Army would open fire again on demonstrators if ordered to do so.

"In the present situation," said the *Liberation Army Daily*, "the key to our struggle

Castro strives to perfect Leninism

By Charles Bremer

President Castro of Cuba, who sees his country as a beleaguered bastion of old-style Leninism, has responded to the upheaval in the communist world by launching a campaign to "perfect" and "revitalize" the workings of his ruling party.

Although presented as an attempt at "deep reform", the new programme appears not to aim at Gorbachov-type restructuring but at shoring up the party's control of the country's economic and spiritual life against the pressure for change buffeting the Caribbean island.

"What we are talking about is perfecting a single, Leninist party based on the principles of democratic centralism," the Central Committee said after a meeting on Friday. Democratic centralism is the name for the party dictatorship of national life devised by Lenin, adapted by Stalin and his successors and adopted by Dr Castro and other Third World revolutionaries in the 1950s and 1960s.

In recent months, Cuba has suffered severe shortages of bread, other food and consumer goods, mainly owing to a reduction in Soviet supplies. President Castro toyed with free-market reforms five years ago before abandoning the experiment and returning to full central control. This year he declared that his people were prepared to die rather than give up the party state that he and his comrades imposed after the revolution.

Hong Kong protest

Hong Kong (AFP) — About 3,000 democracy activists marched in driving rain here yesterday to protest against the Chinese mini-constitution for post-1997 Hong Kong, criticizing the Basic Law as a British sellout. They walked from Hong Kong's financial district to the offices of the New China News Agency, Peking's representative in the British colony. Several activists set fire to a placard with Basic Law written on it to the cheers of fellow marchers.

Mr Jack Edwards, chairman of the Hong Kong British Ex-servicemen's Association, held a poster reading: Betrayed, never given vote or truly consulted by two governments, Hong Kong and Britain.

Poll disarray

Moroni (Reuter) — The first free elections in the Comoros broke up in disarray as President Djohar rejected opposition calls to resign, opposition politicians said.

Gadaffi visit

Aswan (Reuter) — Egypt gave Colonel Gadaffi, the Libyan leader, yesterday a rousing welcome for his visit.

Pompeii find

Pompeii (Reuter) — Archaeologists said they had unearthed an almost perfectly preserved marble statue of a child sitting on a dolphin.

Peace hopes

Madras (Reuter) — The prospects for peace between rival Tamil groups in Sri Lanka looked stronger after talks here, the Chief Minister of India's Tamil Nadu state said.

Envoy missing

Dakar (AFP) — The West German Embassy here has placed an advertisement in a Senegalese paper for Mr. Wilhelm Schupp, an envoy who disappeared 11 days ago.

Crash kills 28

Lusaka (AFP) — A Zambia Air Force plane crashed on Saturday night killing 28 people at Ngyerere, east of the Zambian capital here.

Taiwan clash

Taipei (Reuter) — Taiwan opposition protesters clashed with police in the port of Keelung over the island's March presidential poll.

Victory claim

Manila (Reuter) — A former Muslim rebel leader claimed victory in elections to choose the governor of an autonomous region in the south.

Mongolia's rulers welcome new opposition party

From Our Correspondent
Peking

Mongolia's fledgeling democratic movement half-heartedly declared itself an opposition party yesterday as the communist party, which has ruled since 1921, welcomed the new opposition with open arms, appearing to promise a multi-party system within months.

At the opposition congress yesterday, activists criticized the communist party for causing an economic crisis, called for an end to bureaucracy and foreign debt, and urged liberalization of the economic and political systems.

But this is fight-to-the-death Romanian-style opposition. The draft charter of the opposition called for the Mongolian Democratic Party to adhere to Marxism-Leninism and work within the context of the Constitution. Speakers several times referred to their desire to perfect the socialist system, leading observers to wonder what the opposition was against.

It did not, certainly, appear to threaten the communist party's hold on power. Moreover, the aims of the Mongolian Democratic Party, as described yesterday, are not entirely novel. Most have been mooted by the communist party, which on Saturday went one step further, appearing to give in gracefully to the demands of democracy



An official holding up a bowl of milk and a scarf in a traditional opening gesture as the Mongolian opposition congress began.

activists for political pluralism, thereby disarming them.

Mr Dumsagijn Sodnom, the Prime Minister, said Mongolia would abolish the communist party's monopoly on power. "Our goal is to transform the central planning

system — which is decades old — into a system based on democratic principles," he said.

"I cannot say that monopoly of the political system is right," he added, emphasizing that "if new parties are formed

in the interest of the people parties to take part in elections. The Mongolian Democratic Party claims a membership of 60,000, just two-thirds of the communist party's in a population of some two million.

Started in December last

year, the Mongolian Democratic Party has held five mass rallies in the centre of Ulan Bator, sometimes in bone-chilling temperatures.

Mongolia has been in the pocket of the Soviet Union for nearly 70 years, and diplomats are not surprised that Ulan Bator is taking its lead from Moscow in terms of *glasnost*, *perestroika*, and abandoning the leading role of the communist party. There are even cynics who suggest that perhaps the gentle opposition is the brainchild of the communist party, created to prove to Moscow that Ulan Bator is reforming.

Government officials were present at yesterday's congress, some of them appearing to cover what was being said on the platform, and state-run television broadcast congress debates live.

Although the Mongolian Democratic Party may prove to be little more than a catalyst for change in Mongolia, creating little conflict, indications emerged yesterday that it might be more of a threat to the stability of China.

At the congress, leaders of the democracy movement who have previously shown little interest in Chinese-run Inner Mongolia, suddenly produced a white silk scroll of support said to be from their "brothers and sisters" on the other side of the border.

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SPECTRUM

Anne McElvoy meets the wheelchair veteran who inspired *Born on the Fourth of July*

The European premiere of *Born on the Fourth of July* in Berlin on Saturday began with the hushed anticipation you would expect to greet the latest Oliver Stone and Tom Cruise offering, already bound for multiple glory in this year's Oscars.

Few in the audience noticed the late arrival of a man in a wheelchair. When the same man rolled onto the stage after the film, his fingers aloft in a victory sign, the applause outstripped the euphoria traditionally reserved for director and actor.

For Ron Kovic, the Vietnam veteran on whose life the film was based, it was the culmination of a 12-year wait to make the war film he believed was missing: a film centred not on the horror of the fighting, but on the society which preceded it and the events that followed. "I feel that my tragedy and that of a whole generation has finally been turned into something good," he says.

Kovic set out for Vietnam from small-town Long Island as a Marine, the words of the high school recruitment officers ringing in his ears: "There is nothing prouder, nothing finer than a United States Marine".

He returned to apathy and embarrassment, told by an aide in the squalid Bronx veteran hospital that Vietnam meant nothing to people at home.

Could he really have been so naive? "I grew up with John Wayne movies and they led me to go to the war," Kovic says. "That is the way we grew up in America, playing guns in the woods, reading comic books, playing with little plastic tanks and guns and always with the background of 'America is right'."

"We were the greatest country in the world, and if our government told us to go off and fight a war then obviously the war must be a just one."

Kovic is unembarrassed by his obsession with his own suffering — he refers to it frequently during conversation as "a hell" and "my burden" — or by his desire to bring it to audiences who could not cope with the gore-and-roar violence of *Platoon* and *Hamburger Hill*. "This film had to be more than just another tear-jerker about one of our boys who ends up paralyzed," he says. "It had to make you look at America before Vietnam and after, and understand the change."

The self-pity which he says, ate at his esteem following his return has been replaced by zealotry. "I wanted to do something with my suffering, to redefine notions of heroism and manhood. Young kids can watch this movie the way we watched John Wayne 30 years ago, and it is going to change the way they think about war."

Kovic describes the Rambo films as the current equivalent of his childhood fantasies and says: "There is always a danger that they will turn into reality. These movies are dangerous and they do a disservice to every young man in the country."

The presence of Tom Cruise, who has managed a deft flip from the brat-pack hero of his earlier roles to the serious actor in *Rain Man*, was calculated to bring the film a young audience.

It was first due to be made 12 years ago with Al Pacino as Kovic, but the project fell through four days before work was due to start when the bankers got cold feet. Oliver Stone promised Kovic that if he ever became successful he would return to the film.

Not long after the successful release of *Platoon* Kovic received a three-word phone call from the by-then acclaimed director saying, "Ronnie, I'm ready". "The next day I was on a jet to New York to re-live the past," Kovic says.

It is doubtful that America would have been ready for *Born on the Fourth of July* in the late



Ron Kovic: chance to re-live his painful past

Veteran on the road to glory

Seventies. "The 12 years were probably beneficial for everyone concerned. On a personal level I would not have been ready to cope with what has happened. The success of the film has turned my life into a hurricane."

He says the events portrayed have been kept as close as possible to his own experience. The Bronx hospital scenes, one of the goriest parts of a film which otherwise avoids the standard sanguinary excesses of the Vietnam genre, are true to life. "Right down the rats on the ward," Kovic says. "Talk to the men who came back to those places and they'll tell you that the only thing missing was the smell."

Seeing himself played during the worst time of his life when he returned to an uncomprehending America gripped by peace protests was painful. "The first time I saw Tom made up as me drinking, shouting, and accusing, I had to develop a mechanism to prevent me shouting. I had this little trick which was to say to myself, 'that's Tom, he's an actor, I'm Ron, I'm a person'."

His aim now is to harness patriotism for the Democratic cause. Whether the teenagers who flock to see Tom Cruise in the role will digest this political message as easily as he thinks is doubtful. But his opponents are already aware of the potential of a face in film, now turned to politics.

Born on the Fourth of July opens at the Empire, Leicester Square, London on March 2.

use the fact that "he gets tired" to conclude interviews more efficiently than would be possible if their prize was not in a wheelchair. Kovic looks irritated and carries on talking with animation.

With him is the close friend and fellow veteran who lifted him onto the helicopter the day he was injured. Bruce Mangan sits wordlessly by him, clearly ill at ease in the artificial surroundings of the film world, a reminder of those veterans who have not had the opportunity to realise their personal catharsis in public.

His awkwardness is painful in a way that Kovic's speeches and recollections fail to be, and make Kovic's oft-repeated statements about the power of the human spirit triumphing over adversity seem a little glib.

Since his first appearance as an anti-war protestor on the floor of the 1972 Republican Convention, where he was arrested, Kovic has become a leading Democrat campaigner and intends to stand in the Californian elections later this year against the radical right-wing Congressman Robert Dornan.

His politics are an adroit mixture of the sentiments of the Seventies knitted into the changing world of the Nineties. The emergence of East-West relations gives Vietnam new significance for young Americans, he says, and then launches into a speech of prepared spontaneity. "The Bush Administration is the same type of apparatus which caused the Vietnam War. The same people who brought us Vietnam are still in power. The whole foreign policy must change as the world changes. We need *glasnost* and *perestroika* in America, too."

The invasion of Panama, Kovic says, was particularly disturbing for him. "As usual the American public was caught off its feet and came out in favour, but there were thousands of Vietnam veterans who felt that this government had learned nothing from the war."

His political opponents claim that he is a single-issue candidate standing on a platform of box-office success. He is rumoured to have visited several cinemas in California when the film came out there, sitting in the foyer in his wheelchair afterwards to gauge audience reaction and with it, one supposes, his electoral chances.

Without the film, Kovic's chances of victory in the Congressional election were marginal. Now Dornan is clearly railed and makes frequent attacks on Kovic, describing him as unapologetic.

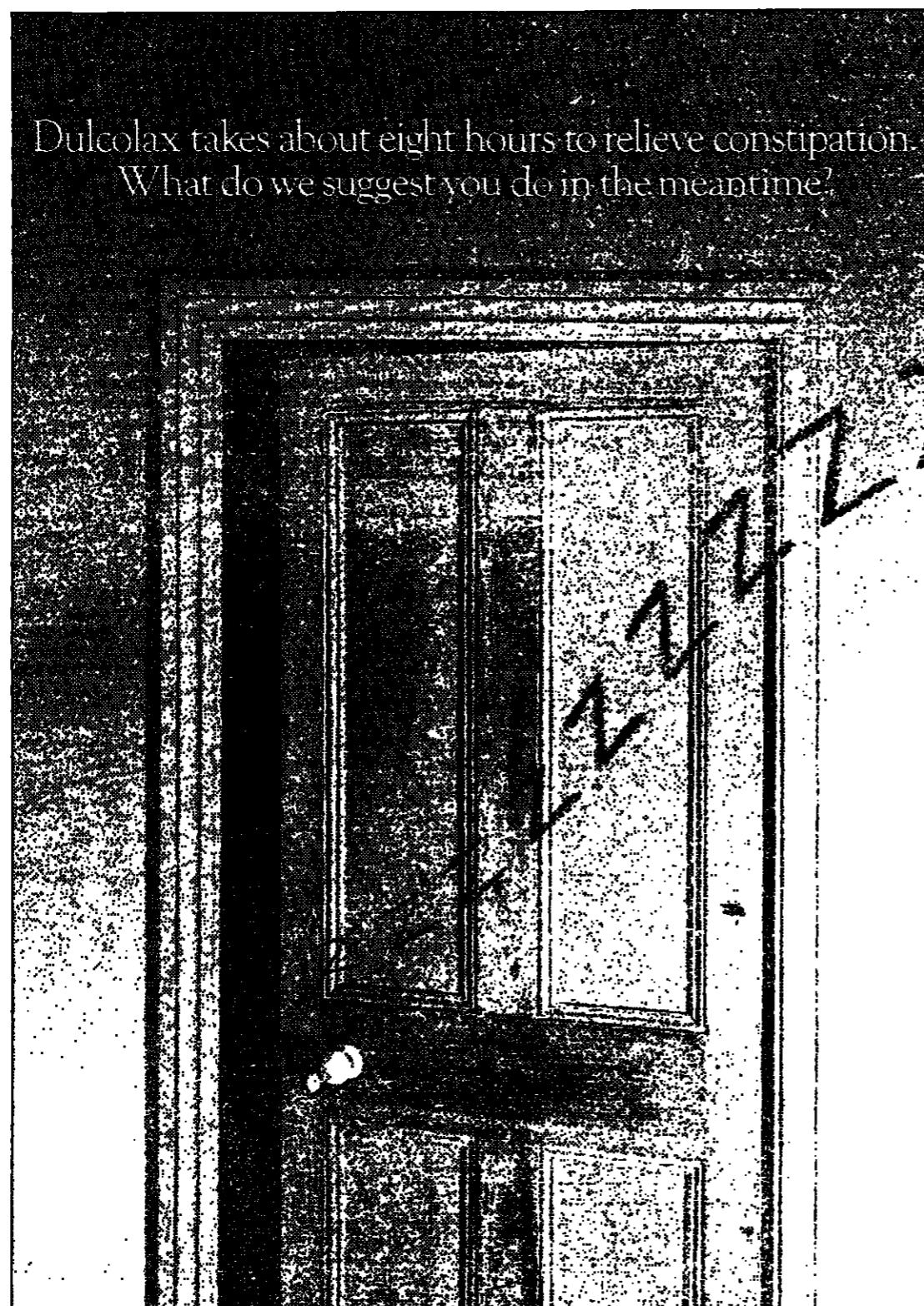
The electorate in Orange County looks like being faced with a nostalgic contest between anti-war fervour and cold-war rhetoric. Kovic produces the standard Democratic eulogy of tolerance and non-intervention, but there are sudden flashes of well-directed venom. "It always seems to be the false patriots who attack the real heroes," he says. "The Congressman never served one day of combat in his life," he says, smiling sweetly.

His first visit in Berlin was, in best presidential style, to the Wall. He says: "Yesterday I was chipping away at the Wall and shaking hands with East German soldiers through the gaps. I am convinced that I represent the future of America more than the current pretenders."

His aim now is to harness patriotism for the Democratic cause. Whether the teenagers who flock to see Tom Cruise in the role will digest this political message as easily as he thinks is doubtful. But his opponents are already aware of the potential of a face in film, now turned to politics.

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Putting a brave face on a changing world

As the walls of apartheid crumble, Gavin Bell talks to an Afrikaner who lives in hope of a peaceful South Africa for all races



You shouldn't judge us by the extremists: farmer Hempies du Toit

from nothing. Then I looked at the Maoris, and what had happened to them, and thought of the blacks in my own country. I felt depressed."

His perception that something was fundamentally wrong in South African society crystallized into an attempt to improve it, by enhancing the prospects of his workers' children. He provides interest-free loans for schoolbooks and uniforms, insists on quarterly reports from their headmaster to monitor their progress, and awards prizes to the best pupils.

With a labour force of 50 adults, he reckons that an equal number of children are on his farm at any given time. "I wasn't sure how many there were, but when I laid on a Christmas party I sent out for

'Now that everything is changing, you have to educate people to adapt to the new ways. Whether you trim a vine or govern a country, you have to learn'

100 plates and found we were five short."

It works both ways. He and Naomi, his English-speaking wife, three daughters and a son, all of whom are learning Xhosa, the dominant tribal language of the region, and are being taught to respect everyone, regardless of race.

Du Toit sees education as the key to South Africa surviving without conflict. "I think it is vitally important that we spend much more on black education. You can reason with educated people, but lack of education makes it difficult for everyone. Especially now that everything is changing, you have to educate people to adapt to the new ways. Knowledge is power. Whether you want to trim a vine or govern a country, you have to learn."

"I wish I could just press a button and have all the blacks educated. How else can we understand each other's needs and ambitions?"

These are extraordinary views from a member of a deeply conservative community with a tradition of paternal feudalism towards its employees, but Du Toit senses he is not alone.

"I think there are a lot of Afrikaners who share my views, although they might not admit it. You shouldn't judge us all by the extremists you see on television with their Boer flags and uniforms."

He admits there are limits to his liberalism, and says it will require time for both sides to adjust. Black majority rule overnight would, he

says, be a disaster for everybody. "If the blacks were capable of governing the country tomorrow to Western standards, no problems pal, we could all live a happy life. But if they mess it up, no ways. The problem is they have never had the chance to govern. You can't just abolish a white government and replace it with a black one."

"Look, there is serious conflict between the different tribes. I think you can use the white man as a stabilizing factor while we all get used to the idea of sharing power."

As a businessman, he firmly opposes the nationalization of key sectors of the economy, as advocated by the African National Congress. "There will be one hell of a war if they try to nationalize everything. The Afrikaners won't accept that, they'll go for their guns. I hate to say it, but if they want to come and just grab what I've built up, they will have to fight for it."

Afrikaner culture is another area in which he is not prepared to compromise. "It is important the language survives. It is an integral part of our life, of South Africa. Without it we lose our identity."

We move through a rose garden to the *stoep* (veranda), for coffee. A pretty little blonde girl in a floral smock peeps shyly from a doorway. What would Du Toit do if he found himself in a *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner?* situation when she grows up?

He pauses for a long time. "That's a tough one. Coloureds are much like white people, but blacks are a little bit different. Of course it would worry me, but I dare say I would get used to it in time and then ask myself why I ever bothered about it."

"The problem is the children. I know a coloured girl on a farm who had a child by a white man. He has her dark skin and his father's blonde hair, and the other kids at school torment the life out of him. I don't think South African society is ready to accept such kids."

Mandela's release was a frightening experience for many Afrikaners, who had learnt to fear and loathe him as public enemy number one, but Du Toit was reassured by his moderation.

"He came across as a person with a lot of dignity, and if he is the type of man who can unite the blacks, I think a lot of whites will follow him. If he looks after my interests, if he cares for my feelings, I'll go with him all the way."

Du Toit feels it is essential to forget past injustices. "A lot of people suffered a lot of hurt under the old laws, but we've got to forget the past and get our act together. It's not going to be easy. We whites committed wrongs, and now we'll have to make sacrifices. The important thing is not to ruin everything with vengeance."

He has no time for the bigots of the far right. "I think they're going to be a milestone round the neck of our country," he says. "These people don't reason, they don't debate, they have their viewpoint and to hell with the rest. They don't represent the future."

TOMORROW



The cosmetic industry's battle to beat the years enters a new hi-tech phase

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SPECTRUM

At last the twain shall meet ...

Thousands of European families, torn apart by war and revolution and stranded for decades on either side of the Iron Curtain, are now being reunited by the international Red Cross. Alan Franks reports

As eastern Europe has opened up, it has released the flood-gates on an apparently endless swell of families separated by war or revolution and now seeking reunion after lifetimes of silence and bewilderment. Their searches, and the stories they unearth, are joyful, tragic and sometimes incredible. Occasionally they are almost too painful to conclude. These are the latest human chapters in a continent's long story of displacement.

Because of *glasnost*, and the turmoil to the west of the Soviet Union, the British Red Cross Society in London is reporting an enormous increase in the number of requests for information on long-lost relatives. Each year it handles about 3,000 inquiries from all over the world, and Sandra Singer, the director of its tracing service, estimates that the number concerning families from eastern Europe and the Soviet Union is 64 per cent up on previous years. Many involve the finding of some vital jigsaw piece in a family picture fragmented by the Second World War. Some go back much further – there is one, for example, from an 83-year-old Moscow man craving news of the siblings whom he saw regularly until "everything was interrupted by the October Revolution of 1917".

He believes that his brothers and sisters, all of whom were born in the Chinese town of Foochow and moved to England between 1905 and 1907, came to live in Clevedon, in Somerset. With poetic understatement, his letter, written in response to the last will of another of his sisters, says that "this historical event and limited international relations made us deaf and dumb for more than 70 years".

At the heart of the tracing



Reunited: (front row, left to right): Anna Kis, Eric Fletcher, James Toth (uncle), Sylvia and Maria Domotor (back); Karsci Toth, Tibor Domotor, George Domotor, Arpad Domotor, Eva Shepherd, Laszlo Toth

promise made long ago to a close relative. One saga, concluded only months ago, offers one of the best insights into the scope of the Red Cross's free service.

In 1956, after the Hungarian uprising, a young couple named Domotor left the country to look for work, leaving their young children in the care of relatives.

The Domotors settled in Lancashire, got jobs, and had four more children, all of whom are now grown up. It had always been the parents' intention to return to Hungary, as the government there refused permission for the children

to come to England. When the youngest of those born in England, a daughter named Erico, was only six months old, the father, distraught at the news that his wife had tuberculosis, committed suicide.

Precisely 12 months later, she died, two days before she was to have travelled to Hungary with her four English-born children.

Eventually the authorities in the UK decided it was in the children's best interests to remain here; so Erico, George, Eva, and Sylvia were fostered by a family in Derbyshire, and grew up knowing

almost nothing about their background.

Although the interest of the Red Cross was supposed to end when the children went into care, its involvement continued unofficially. Singer recalls that her predecessor made a point of asking her to hang on to that particular file. "She told me that one day those children would want to find their relatives in Hungary, and that file would mean we could help them."

And so it was. Early last year, Erico Fletcher, now 28 and a mother herself, called the Red

'Anyone could have told we were the same family from the way we looked, the way we spoke, the movements – everything'

Cross to ask how she should begin looking for her two Hungarian brothers and sister, and her two half-brothers, born to her mother by a first husband. Astonishingly, her Hungarian brother, Arpad, aged 37, had instituted a similar search himself, through the Red Cross in Hungary. It led to a euphoric moment of bureaucratic matching which Singer and her colleagues refer to as "a meeting of the cards".

The human meeting finally occurred last September, when the English side of the family went to the Hungarian town of Barbacs, where it found Arpad living in the house once occupied by their parents. Across the road was Tibor, at 35 the youngest of the Hungarians, and their aunt Anna, the dead mother's sister.

Laszlo and Karsci, the two half-brothers, both in their forties, were just around the corner, and Maria, aged 37, the sister, lived 20 miles away. After such a separation, the distance hardly seemed great.

"It was a dream come true," Eric says. "There is no other way of describing it. There was a fantastic closeness, which we all felt the moment we met. There were absolutely no secrets; we all wanted to know everything."

"Anyone could have told we were all the same family from the way we looked, the way we spoke, the movements ... everything."

"The marvellous thing was that for all those years my brother George had been the only boy and, suddenly, there he was with four brothers, all of them as crazy as him."

Now Erico is learning to speak Hungarian, and intends to stay closely in touch with the "new" half of her family.

Not all the searches are brought

to such a happy conclusion. Some confirm the worst fears of the relatives, while others yield yet more uncertainty. This last category is perhaps the most poignant, as ageing victims of separation retain only their child's image of a 10-year-old sister across the chasm of half a century.

Yet the pieces on the lesser, family jigsaws have, like those on the greater national ones, fallen remarkably into place, tirelessly sifted and marshalled by the paid and voluntary workers in the Red Cross's county branches.

In Germany, where at the end of the Second World War one in four seeking a relative or being sought, the Red Cross recently had immense success through its techniques for tracing the nameless.

These included the issuing of posters bearing a picture of the lost child, now an adult, together with a description of colouring and features, and the date and place where the child was found. The idea was that the child might, as a grown-up, resemble his lost relatives and so be recognized.

Thousands of such posters were put up in post offices, town halls and railway stations, and the method proved so effective that of the 294,000 inquiries all but 3,000 have been solved.

The searches continue, for although a thaw may be moving across eastern Europe, the past remains frozen for many of its citizens, the excavation hard, and the strata obscured by changed names, misprints and marriage. But if the Red Cross has its wish, those filing cabinets at Grosvenor Crescent will always be a memory bank, and never a morgue.

• The Red Cross tracing service is at 9 Grosvenor Crescent, London SW1X 7EJ (01 235 5454). All inquiries are treated as strictly confidential.

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TIMES DIARY

SHERIDAN MORLEY

On the verge of his 86th birthday, our greatest living actor is about to return to one of his most characteristic roles. Next month, at a studio in Amsterdam, Sir John Gielgud starts work on a Peter Greenaway film version of *The Tempest* which will at last preserve for posterity the finest Prospero of the century, albeit in a typically Greenaway kind of way, since many supporting characters have been stripped from the text, leaving Gielgud as both creator and star of the island fantasy.

Gielgud's first Prospero was at the Old Vic 50 years ago; he played the role again for Peter Brook in a 1957 Stratford production which also did a sold-out season at Drury Lane (the last time Shakespeare was seen there) and then again in the Peter Hall revival which opened his National Theatre management at the Old Vic in 1974. Only now, after turning down the BBC television version and an earlier film, has he found in Greenaway the director he trusts to bring to the screen the most magical of all Shakespeare's plays, and the one offering the most potent and moving of valedictions to the craft of acting.

In one of his first decisions, the arts supremo of Channel 4, the former critic Waldemar Januszczak, is to end the Wednesday night *Signals* series which, despite its patchy time of late, did a couple of weeks ago offer Roger Graef's superb study of Soviet artists persecuted by Stalin. Channel 4 cites the oft-heard "new programming" as the reason for axing the programme, but there is an equally familiar financial problem: the *Signals* producer, Andrew Holmes, feels that, to build on the experience of the last two seasons, he needs a larger budget at a time when the channel is facing an effective cut in its arts funding.

So Januszczak now has to find himself a new and still cheaper arts show which will need, as *Signals* did, at least a year or two to find its feet and a coherent style. Arts programmes do not come together overnight: some at the BBC have taken a decade to find their true form. Channel 4's dogmatic belief in all-change every couple of years means that no programme ever gets a chance to settle in before it is whisked away.

At a time when the theatrical news elsewhere is all of cutbacks and closures, from the Barbican through the Round House to the Leicester Haymarket, I can report rays of hope from Sloane Square. The Royal Court has managed to reallocate its still shamefully minimal resources to enable the studio Theatre Upstairs to be reopened after almost a year. Director Simon Curtis's opening production, in late April, promises to be immensely controversial: a double bill made up of the father-and-son letters from the Royal Court's earlier *Falkland Sound* coupled with *Gibraltar Strait*, a new drama-documentary about the killing of three IRA members by the SAS in March 1988 which led to the battles over the television film *Death on the Rock*. Working from original interviews here and in Gibraltar, Curtis and his actors intend to explore the events preceding and following the killings as a matter of "important public debate" — and one which the theatre is more free to discuss than television.

BARRY FANTONI



My prize-winning achievements have not, I am the first to admit, been of special note. True, my mother's Berkshire attic contains a plaque commemorating my 14th place in a boxing competition at school in Melbourne where, as I recall, we fought mainly girls. In the intervening 40 years the only other award to come my way was a bad Third in Modern Languages from Oxford circa 1963.

Imagine my delight, therefore, at discovering that I seem to be one of the four finalists in the press division of this year's BP arts-journalism awards. I may well be outclassed by the other three (Michael Ratcliffe, Mark Lawson and Norman Lebrecht), and maddeningly only two of us get our hands on any loot: £1,000 plus decanter for the winner; £250 for the runner-up. Hopes of a full tank of petrol for the other two of us seem as yet remote, though we do get to meet Gayle Hunnicutt at the Old Vic on March 22.

The *Marylebone Times*, which is pushed through our letter box each month, is a 32-page publication printed on high-quality paper containing around 30 per cent advertising, 20 per cent hagiographies and good works, much of the rest what used to be known as "fearless journalism". This month's leader explains that the *MT* is dedicated to preserving all that is good in the area — then castigates local politicians (no party emerges with honour), touches on how to make money on the stock market and moves smoothly to *Appetisers*, written by one John McGregor Morris, whose name appears in the Contents column at the front of the mag under the heading Sales Representatives.

Appetisers in the February issue assessed Minsky's New York Deli and Restaurant — of which he writes: "We are forced

Woodrow Wyatt, writing on this page last Tuesday, leaned on a Media Monitoring Unit report to suggest that Radio 4's *Today* programme is systematically biased. The essential difficulty with the report and with Lord Wyatt's article is that they regard as improper what we consider to be responsible journalistic practice for a broadcaster: they condemn the BBC for failing to do something we are not actually trying to do.

It is perfectly proper, in our view, to feature an item explaining the opposition to a particular government measure such as the community charge — provided always that at some early moment the Government is given an opportunity to respond. It is also right to subject that response to searching but courteous scrutiny. The report omits the inconvenient fact that, in the fortnight in question, government ministers appeared on *Today* on 14 occasions.

Any analysis of a body of journalism which sets out from a particular perspective to discover whether its sectional viewpoint is on occasion missing or under-recognized is destined to

John Birt replies to Woodrow Wyatt's attack on Today

Unswayed by personal view

find what it seeks. The analyses from the left were as prone to this in the Seventies as those that followed from the right in the Eighties — and now seemingly the Nineties.

Editors in broadcasting do not decide to cover items on the grounds that they are either helpful or unhelpful to government or to anyone else. Rather, with advice from specialist correspondents, they try to determine, day by day, what is most important in the world — what decisions or events have the greatest consequence.

The MMU report is testy about a discussion on *Today* between a Conservative MP opposed to immigration from Hong Kong and a member of the Hong Kong Legislative Council arguing for it. Both were opposed to different aspects of government policy. But only firebrand government loyalists would see a

discussion hinged on such an issue as a plot. More important, the report fails to note that the Foreign Secretary appeared on the programme three days before and the Home Secretary the day after to discuss the same issue.

The BBC aspires keenly to the concept of impartiality in all its programmes. What the concept of impartiality means in contemporary terms has been widely discussed within the BBC in recent years and has been reinforced by new guidelines, which set out our policy at length. It is accepted within the BBC that we must be a pluralist institution, committed to giving space to all significant viewpoints. But impartiality should not be confused with balance. On a programme like *Today*, an impartial approach means that the programme should explore, in the 100 items a week it carries, the full range of current issues and concerns at home and

abroad; and that it should give all involved an opportunity over time to explain their views and to be tested with equal rigour about them. In the cut-and-thrust of a given day this is not always an imperfect process — and we constantly seek to improve our performance; but we have no doubt that over a period all significant views receive a full airing.

This is the task we ask our producers and presenters to perform, putting their own private political convictions to one side in the process. In his list of questions to the BBC Lord Wyatt demanded to know how the staff on *Today* had voted in the last election and how they intend to vote in the next; what political parties and clubs, if any, they had belonged to at university; and of which political parties they had been members since the age of 23.

He adduces the sympathies of one of *Today*'s presenters from his c.v. — a hazardous endeavour, as Woodrow Wyatt's own career amply demonstrates. Unlike Lord Wyatt, the BBC does not want to know what these private convictions are. We judge our staff by their performance and the skill with which they carry out their task.

In the case of the *Today* programme, we know that not every minute of the 14 hours broadcast a week is perfect — *Today* is a live programme compiled around the world amid the hurry-burry of developing news events — but we do believe that taken as a whole, the programme carries out its task with distinction.

Its audience — which is surely more sophisticated and less gullible than Lord Wyatt thinks — seems to agree. More than six million listen every day, 15 per cent more than a year ago. The levels of appreciation recorded by audience research have never been higher. It is Lord Wyatt and the MMU that seem to be out of step.

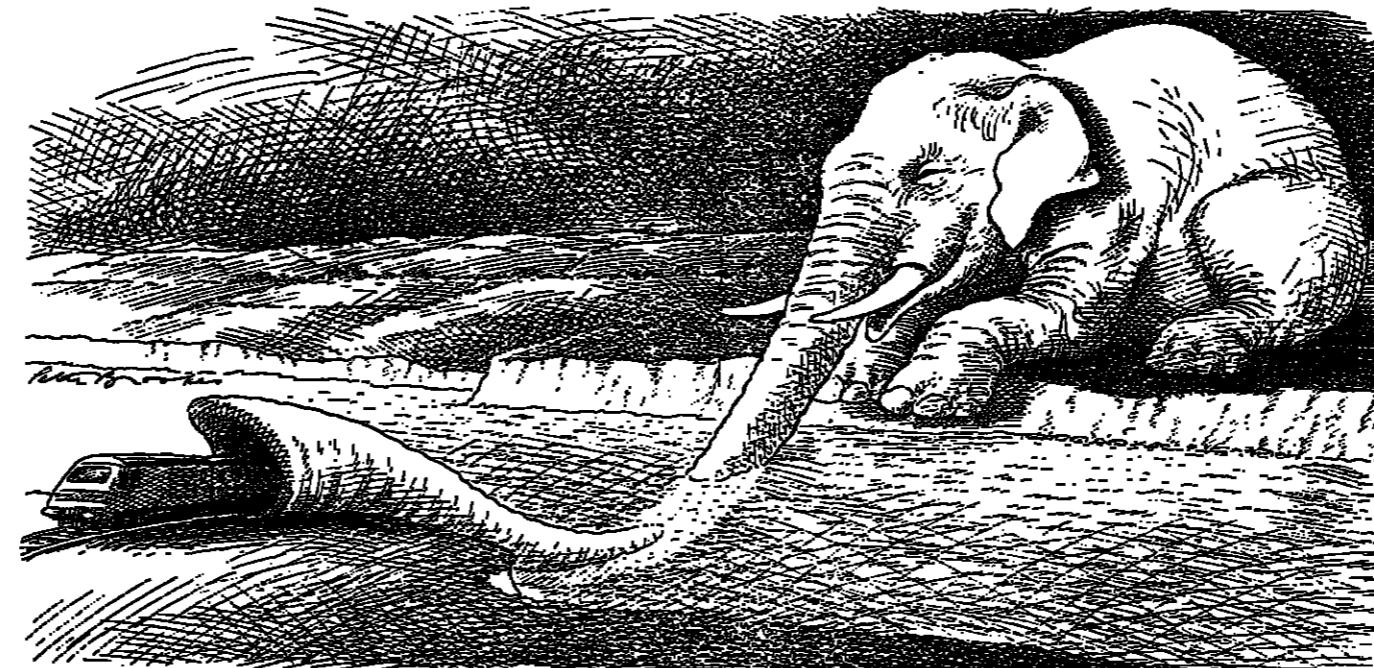
The author is deputy director-general of the BBC in charge of journalistic output.

Banks going down the drain

A couple of months ago, after murmuring *en passant* that the Channel Tunnel would never be finished, I got a letter from a concerned reader asking if I had any special information leading me to that conclusion. Certainly I had no clairvoyant inkling of the latest imbroglio involving Mr Alastair Morton, the contractors, the banks and a matter of £400 million in emergency funding nor of the photographic evidence supplied by our tabloid relation across the way that quite a few tunnellers seem to regard their workplace primarily as a quiet, warm spot for a good night's kip, though both could easily have been predicted.

It was, though, the banks — specifically the headline "Banks too deep in tunnel to go back" — which had set me musing that the celebrated hole in the ground is destined never to be more than that. It is not all that long since the banks were shelling out hundreds of millions as write-off money for the unrecoverable but stupendous sums they had lent so gaily to the Third World. You will remember that the millions were piled up so high not only because of the size of the loans but because, when the recipients had wasted or stolen all the spondulicks and could not pay the interest, the banks — no less gaily — lent them money to do so and when that had gone the same way, those hard-headed bankers shelled out enough for them to pay the interest on the interest. And when that melted away in turn.

Eventually, of course, the roof fell in. After picking the plaster out of their hair, they came up with the excuses. These amounted to the very thought which inspired the tunnel headline, and for that matter Macbeth: "I am in blood Steeped in so far, that should I wade no more, Returning were as tedious as go o'er." And you must admit that what Macbeth had done — regicide, a murder or two, and consorting with witches — was



Bernard Levin marshals figures to back his argument that the Channel tunnel is doomed to be a multi-billion white elephant

trivial compared to the limitless folly of the bankers. The "deal" recently concluded among the tunnel's promoters, the contractors and the banks is a thing of shreds and patches; it postpones real decisions in the hope that something better might turn up. (Perhaps they hope to find a field of diamonds halfway across.) The £400 million which the banks are now stumping up will keep the show on the road for a couple of months, by which time they hope to have found the Philosopher's Stone. But my guess is that they will find nothing but a large number of noughts.

The banks have been tossing the numbers about in a most carefree manner; the estimated cost of the monstrous thing had swollen month by month until it had reached £6 billion, and plainly it was going to continue its drooping career, so a neat solution was devised. They announced that "the final cost of all work will be £7.2 billion".

Before I go on, let me put my mouth where their money is. I

now prophesy that before the target date of June 1993 (which is likely to be September 1996), the "final cost of all work" will be at least £9.5 billion. They babbble about cutting the tunnel's "supervision overheads" by 25 per cent (I do hope this won't mean that a quarter of the tunnel will collapse for want of supervision), of using more powerful engines for the trains to compensate for the fact that more cost-cutting has led to reducing the speed of them, of "capping" the contractors' payment for the equipment at £60 million, despite the fact that the contractors' budget speaks of £73 million (and will in the end probably turn out to be £107 million). Let us suppose further that no fewer than 12 trains run every day, with 1,000 seats taken in every one. Let us guess that the fare will be £60, including full charge for children, however young. These suppositions are, of course, preposterously overgenerous, but let us forget that.

Twelve trains at 1,000 passengers a train makes 12,000 passengers. Twelve thousand passengers at £60 a head makes £720,000 revenue a day, getting on for £265 million a year. Ladies and gentlemen: the tunnel will be in profit roughly 27 years after its completion, provided that the entire running operation from beginning to end costs nothing whatever. And I have not added the interest charges from the 208 banks which are putting up the money. If you want to be realistic (and the people who are backing the tunnel certainly don't), to judge from their goings-on, you can think of the tunnel in profit about a century from now. Now you will understand why

the headline set me thinking. It is all very well to say that the banks will pull the rug out sooner or later; you might have said they would do the same over the Third World debts, but did they? What will stop them saying, as the debts rise into the stratosphere while simultaneously receding towards a distant horizon, "We can't stop now — we have put too much in already"?

There is no sign that any banker has ever heard of that basic military principle: Never reinforce failure. On the contrary, they behave as though the maxim runs "If you reinforce failure often enough, it might turn into success — you never know."

"Banks too deep in tunnel to go back." It was announced some time ago that certain huge machines, used for the digging or shoring, were so enormous that they could not be dismantled and brought up when their work was done; they were to be buried in the tunnel itself. That seems to me to sum up the whole crazy (and, in any case, unnecessary) project. If it doesn't so seem to you, try this for an alternative.

Soon after the Second World War, the British government decided to commemorate the centenary of the 1851 Exhibition with a Festival of Britain. The centrepiece of the whole enterprise was the huge exhibition on the South Bank (the Royal Festival Hall is the only surviving part of the project). There were innumerable hold-ups in the construction — strikes, bad weather, faulty equipment — and civil servants constantly brought more bad news to the then Minister of Works, Richard Stokes.

One day, such a messenger of misfortune came to him and said "I'm sorry, Minister, but there is another stoppage on the South Bank". Wearily, Stokes asked the reason. "It's a shortage of shovels." Stokes took thought; then "Oh well," he said, "tell the men they'll have to lean on one another."

Why religions should fight their own fight

Raymond Plant warns of the divisive inequity of special privileges

in recognizing the special claims of religious groups.

There is a difference between protecting people in terms of race or gender because these are characteristics which are not chosen. What makes religion of special significance is that it is based on faith and commitment. I do not want to deny that religious belief plays a crucial role in forming individual and communal identity. Indeed, I know in my own case the tremendous influence which Anglicanism has had on my mind and development. However, there seems to be a big gulf between recognizing this fact and saying that religious groups should be protected by law.

We should try to avoid what might be termed moral corporatism, the allocation of protected status to particular groups, when those groups are at bottom based upon commitment and consent.

There are other difficulties too. In the Gay News trial, the judge, Sir Alan King-Hamilton, stated that blasphemous libel

applies only to the Christian religion and sacred subjects. If the law were extended to other religions, what would constitute a sacred subject? Sacred subjects, such as the Eucharist in Christianity, are significant only to the religion concerned. Does this mean that Rastafarian dreadlocks and *ganja*, for example, would be regarded as sacred? On the other hand, the average man, on whose judgement we might have to rely, may not recognize the importance of a sacred subject within a religion.

Another problem arises. An individual right leaves a person at liberty to claim his right or to forgo its exercise, whereas group rights can be claimed only by a collective decision-making process. Somehow, the group has to decide to claim that a right has been infringed and that a remedy should be sought. This intrinsic feature of group rights has highly undesirable results since it is inherently paternalistic. Some

authority within the group has to decide on behalf of the whole that the group has been offended, and other members of the group may have little say in how that judgement is reached.

Since most religious groups are organized hierarchically, it is likely to be those at the top who decide whether their rights have been infringed. Recognition of group rights would therefore encourage the growth of such hierarchies and increase their power.

The Government has deployed a similar argument for the removal of legal protection from trade unions, and to insist upon making them democratic. The argument against those seeking to extend privileges to religious groups is much the same: those at the top of the hierarchy would be able to use their new-found privileges to increase their status and power within the group. Just as we should not try to control the

economy by conceding special privileges to élites — whether in business or the unions — so we should not try to control the moral order by granting special immunities to religions.

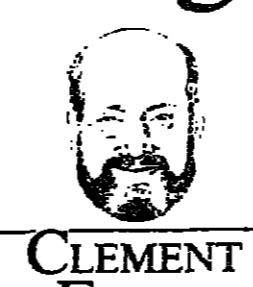
A liberal society must treat all citizens with equal concern and respect. Quite apart from the objections I have already raised, it follows that to grant legal privileges to certain groups is to deny them to other citizens outside those groups.

Muslims have legitimate cause for complaint because they are treated less favourably than Christians, but this inequality could be resolved by removing the law of blasphemy altogether.

Those Christians who believe that would be a retrograde step might ponder on the Passion of Jesus as recorded by St Matthew. He died convicted of blasphemy, a charge made by a religious élite claiming to speak for the whole of the community which had supposedly been offended by the blasphemy.

The author is Professor of Politics at Southampton University.

Given something to beef about



CLEMENT FREUD
I once went to Minsky's. It was

a Sunday afternoon in spring and I felt nostalgic about The Stage Bar on Broadway where you could order a Joe Di Maggio on rye, easy on the relish, and all around you sat serious Runyon-esque characters on the fringe of show business, also boxers and tourists dedicated to the business of overeating. At The Stage, the soup was chicken soup — made lazily by overcooking plump hen in water and onion and salt, ladding off some of the fat for the chicken liver with egg, throwing into the strained broth a handful of barley which languished therein for an hour before being decanted on your plate. Minsky's in Regent's Park serves soup from

a tin at the wrong temperature — like lukewarm. At The Stage a Reuben sandwich is half a dozen thin slices of corned beef and a layer of aromatic sauerkraut on black bread with a small plastic bucket of dill pickles, chillies and best black olives. Minsky's said sandwiches would be 20 minutes and sold me a Pickle Barrel for £1.40: five slices of Hungarian pickled cucumber on a saucer.

I recently discovered the brilliant Whiteley's complex in Bayswater: many excellent shops including Marks & Spencer, a two-storey bookstore and a whisky emporium selling 100 different malts, bourbons, ryes and blends. There are 10 comfort-

able, non-smoking cinemas with a computerized booking system and courteous ushers; also half a dozen good eating places, of which Poon's is not one: arrogant, inefficient, Chinese staff, slow, bad service; one set of chopsticks between two; water came after the fifth request; the Szechuan duck was fat and soggy where it should have been crisp; the pancakes were thick and unhot.

Should one write about the inadvisability of going there? It would not do Poon's a jot of harm — on the contrary. "This is the place that Clement Freud did not like" used to attract customers as certainly as a Michelin star. If you must go, drink the Cloudy Bay Chardonnay, even though they serve it at room temperature and pour it through the shards of foil they cannot be bothered to remove when they draw the cork.

لهم من الأصل



COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE February 17: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh, attended by the Duchess of Grafton, the Hon. Mary Morrissey, the Right Hon. Sir William Hesketh, Sir Kenneth Scott, Mr Robin Janvrin, Surgeon Captain Norman Blacklock, RN, Air Commodore the Hon. Timothy Elworthy and Mr Brian McGrath, arrived at Heathrow Airport, London this afternoon in a British Airways TriStar from New Zealand.

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness were received at the airport by Sir Alastair (Lord Chamberlain) and Mr Alan Proctor (Managing Director, Heathrow Airport).

The Princess Royal this morning left Royal Air Force Lyneham for the start of Her

Royal Highness' visit to The Gambier Settlements.

The Hon. Mrs Leon Bourke and Lieutenant-Colonel Gibbs were in attendance.

YORK HOUSE ST JAMES'S PALACE February 18: The Duchess of Kent this evening attended a gala evening, *The Night of 100 Stars*, at the Theatre Royal, Norwich. Mrs David Napier was in attendance.

The Duke of York celebrates his birthday today.

Today's royal engagement

The Princess of Wales, as President of the Meninings Trust, will visit the trust's headquarters at Fern House, Bath Road, Stroud, at 11.30.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr D.G. Peate and Miss A.V. Dawbarn

The engagement is announced between David, son of the late Mr and Mrs William Peate, of Edinburgh, and Anna Victoria, younger daughter of Sir Simon and Lady Dawbarn of Islington, London.

Mr P.S. Baldwin and Miss J.M. Barnett

The engagement is announced between Philip, elder son of Mr and Mrs D.J. Baldwin, of Winchester, and Joanna, youngest daughter of Mrs Patricia Barnett, of Guildford, and the late Mr Anthony H. Barnett.

Mr N.A. Barnes and Miss J.M. Homer

The engagement is happily announced between Nigel Anthony, only son of Mr and Mrs Keith Barnes, of Stow-on-the-Wold, Gloucestershire, and Jane, eldest daughter of Mr and Mrs Brian Horner, of Lichfield, Staffordshire.

Mr G. Chapman and Miss R.W. Ward

The engagement is announced between Gregory, son of Mrs M.B. Mullins, of Harwich, Essex, and the late Mr M.J. Chapman, and Anne, only daughter of Mr and Mrs A.J. Ward, of Haslemere, Surrey.

Dr J.R. Cutler and Miss R.K. Armitage-Smith

The engagement is announced between John, son of Dr and Mrs Harold Cutler, of St Louis, Missouri, and Rosalind, younger daughter of the late Mr Julian Armitage-Smith and Mrs Armitage-Smith, of London.

Mr P.H. Davies and Miss M.T. Arnold

The engagement is announced between Philip Howell, eldest son of the Right Reverend and Mrs Howell Davies, of St. Ives, Wolverhampton, and Mervyl Tracey, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Kari Arnold, of Northwood, Middlesex.

Mr J. Doherty and Miss A.R.C. Burridge

The engagement is announced between Jonathan, second son of Mrs Daphne Doherty and the late Mr J. Doherty of Wembly, Middlesex, and Anna, daughter of Mr and Mrs Jack Burridge, of Haslemere, Surrey.

Mr K.A.M. Edmunds and Miss T.J. Farlam

The engagement is announced between Keith, eldest son of Mr and Mrs B.J.M. Edmunds, of Shenfield, Essex, and Tamsin, only daughter of Mr and Mrs G.A. Farlam, of Denbigh, Clwyd.

Mr R.J. Harper and Miss R.J. Collyer

The engagement is announced between Robin, son of Mr and Mrs Eric Harper, of Longacre, London, Somerset, and Rosemary, daughter of Lt Col and Mrs Alan Collyer, of The Manor House, Ford, Canterbury.

Mr J.W. Moorehead McElvey and Miss M.J. Blake

The engagement is announced between John William, son of Dr and Mrs James Moorehead McElvey, of Saintfield, County Down, and Melanie Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs Derek George Blake, of Winchester, Hampshire.

Mr J.R.J.H. Mundy and Miss F.K.A.G. Neville

The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr and Mrs James Mundy of Fife, Ashes, Sussex, and of the late James Mundy and Fiona, daughter of Air Commodore and Mrs Christopher Neville, of Ottery St Mary, Devon.

Mr K.P. Osborn and Miss P.H. Wardell

The engagement is announced between Kenneth Robert, youngest son of the late Frederick Osborn and of Mrs Gladys Osborn, of Porthcawl, Cornwall, and Patricia Horna, only child of the late William (Pat) Wardell, of Lancaster Gate, London.

Mr R.S.E. Smith and Miss F.G.M. White

The engagement is announced between Rodney, son of Mr and Mrs W.H. Smith of Green Island, Carrickfergus, Co Antrim, and Fiona, daughter of Mr and Mrs A.M. White, of Murrayfield, Edinburgh.

Luncheon

Board of Deputies of British Jews

The Prime Minister was the guest of honour at a luncheon given by the Board of Deputies of British Jews, at the London Central Shoe Lane, yesterday. Dr Lionel Kopelowitz, president, who presided, Mrs Kopelowitz, the honorary officers and the secretary general were hosts. Among others present were:

Mr K.A.M. Edmunds and Miss T.J. Farlam

The engagement is announced between Keith, eldest son of Mr and Mrs B.J.M. Edmunds, of Shenfield, Essex, and Tamsin, only daughter of Mr and Mrs G.A. Farlam, of Denbigh, Clwyd.

Sir William Keswick, who died on February 16 at the age of 86, was a prominent figure in the City of London best known for his connection with the Far Eastern firm of Jardine, Matheson & Co. He was Chairman of Matheson & Co from 1945 until 1966 and a non-executive Director for the next ten years.

He brought home from the Far East a haunting memory of buddhas and other statuary peopling the landscape and, inspired by a friendship with Henry Moore, he bought famous pieces by the sculptor and other work to place in another landscape - his Dumfriesshire estate.

Keswick was born on December 6, 1903, the son of Henry Keswick of Cowhill Tower, Dumfries, and was educated at Winchester and Trinity College, Cambridge. His grandfather, William Keswick, was the first member of the family to become a colleague of the Jardines and the Mathesons, and his father, Henry Keswick, followed in the same tradition.

Henry Keswick had three sons of whom William (known to his friends as "Tony") was the second. In addition to his lifelong association with Matheson & Co, London, and Jardine, Matheson & Co of Hongkong, he had been from 1955 to 1973 a Director of the Bank of England and from 1952 to 1965 Governor of Hudson's Bay Company. He had several other important directorships.

He started his training in the Far East by working for Jardine, Matheson in Harbin, Manchuria, and he already had a comprehensive knowledge of the problems of the Far East at the time of the Second World War. In August, 1941, when Mr Winston Churchill was becoming increasingly concerned about the possible entry of Japan into the War, Duff Cooper went out to Singapore as Minister of State for the Far East, and Keswick was chosen as one of his advisers, remaining on his staff until November.

Although he often posed as a Philistine, Tony Keswick was in fact a man of rare and original discernment. It was typical of him to place statues by Henry Moore (a close friend) at strategic points in the gleas of his Dumfriesshire estate, where nature and art combined to set each other off.

Keith Haring

From subway murals to international art shows

Keith Haring, whose distinctive, cartoon-like drawings in subway stations in New York caught the attention of art dealers who made him famous miles away from the dark underground tunnels, has died of AIDS at the age of 31 in New York City.

His work, characterised by cartoon-like human and animal figures in an energised city, has appeared in murals in places as diverse as the Berlin Wall and a Monte Carlo Hospital.

He has had 42 one-man shows and his paintings and drawings sell for tens of thousands of dollars. The

Whitney Museum of American Art was preparing a one-man show of his work at his death but ironically his critical reputation never matched his public popularity.

Critics cited what they said was a lack of focus and others resented the commercialisation of his art through T-shirts and posters. But to Haring, that was part of his point, "art is nothing if you don't reach every segment of the people."

After enrolling in the School

for Visual Arts in New York at the age of 20, he was immediately attracted to subway graffiti which he had

never seen in his small home town in Pennsylvania and to which he referred as movable art, "paintings that travelled to you instead of vice versa."

He was arrested many times in the course of making thousands of subway drawings. Sometimes he received small fines and other times he was jailed briefly. A pushy personality, he soon became a familiar figure to many New York police officers and some of them became fans of his art.

His work soon found its way

hanging in museum shows and collections. At the 1983 Whitney Museum biennial, which displays avant-garde talents he was represented by graffiti on an 18ft wall.

Among his best known works was a 300ft mural he painted on the Berlin Wall in 1986. Other murals include those at a children's hospital in Paris and a maternity ward in Monte Carlo.

Even after his illness was diagnosed, he continued

drawing, painting and creating art for his business and the public.

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Keith Haring

Frances: And is that possible?

Lionel: I have no idea.

If there is a holy moment in the play this is it. Both characters are in touch not only with one another, but with a reality they sense cannot easily, perhaps not at all, be put into words. In short, this is a play that hints at the *via negativa*, St John of the Cross, and of Eliot in *The Four Quartets*. There is a deliberate link between the apparent absence of God disclosed in the prayer and the sense of something beyond our conceiving or imagining, apprehended in the quiet personal disclosures of Lionel and Frances. This is set against a background of the curate wanting to push Christ at people, of wanting a dramatically intervening God who works instant cures, of the curate and the Bishop who wants results thought of in terms of full cures. The curate wants to call in an advertising agency to help the work of the church and across the stage is a huge advertisement indicating the possibilities open to the church. In contrast to all this, there is just the suggestion of the possibility of a true God. So the play is not, as some have seen it, simply about the tension between social commitment and brash religion. Lionel, for all his hesitancy and diffidence, is also struggling to explore and convey the divine mystery. On aesthetic, moral and theological grounds, his plea is for a proper, reverent reticence in our dealings with the divine.

Richard Harries is Bishop of Oxford.

There was a displacement of one line of text in last week's article by the Bishop of Worcester. The passage in question should have read as follows:

The implication was that bishops have a false view of things because congregations are large when they go to confirm or preach or to put in a new parish priest. As for Europe, one French archdiocese has had next to no ordinands over the last 10 years. Of course it is not all negative. A third of those confirmed are adults. Some ordinands are high quality. They will tell you how they receive letters from secular, even agnostic friends, expressing pleasure that people of body parts and passions like themselves are going into the priesthood.

OBITUARIES

SIR WILLIAM KESWICK

Henry Moore figures on a businessman's estate



Moore's *Standing Figure, King and Queen*, and the *Glenkiln Cross* are visible monuments, with other works, to Keswick's far-sightedness in imagining such art in a natural setting rather than in a gallery.

It was equally typical of him to reproach himself for failing to foresee that the artistic pilgrims who came, in increased numbers, to view these modern monuments would have an unsettling effect upon the grouse. He belonged in many ways to the eighteenth century. In contrast he was, by instinct as well as by family tradition, an adventurer - fair to the point of chivalry in his dealings, but always alert to new opportunities, the more far-fetched the better.

In his leisure time, too, he was an adventurer and he took up the chancy sport of ballooning. He was, of course, only an occasional balloonist, just as his acquisition of a

long-disused lighthouse on the Solway Firth was a very small adjunct to his Dumfriesshire properties. But both ventures could be cited as evidence of eccentricity. They were in fact symptoms of almost the reverse, indicating a simplicity, which prompted Keswick to actions which unostentatiously enriched the life of his times.

When William Keswick retired from Matheson in 1966 he had time at last to indulge some of his personal interests. He was a Trustee of both the National Gallery and the National Theatre. And he could spend more time in the garden he had created in his second home in Galloway, which contained many rare plants and trees collected during lengthy travels in the Far East.

He is survived by his wife

Mary, whom he married in 1937, and by their three sons and daughter.

THE RT REV JOHN EASTHAUGH

Bringing spiritual warmth to the people

The Right Reverend John Easthaugh, the Bishop of Hereford, who died on February 16, aged 69, was a Londoner who allied the human touch to spiritual insight.

Born on March 11, 1920, he was known for his open-heartedness, directness and staunch faith. Easthaugh was trained at Leeds University and Mirfield Theological College before his first Curacy at All Saints, Poplar. The war was still on, the V2s were dropping, and Easthaugh entered into the camaraderie of the Londoner.

After becoming the Rector of Poplar, he moved to the large parish of Heston. Four years later he was called by the Bishop of London to be the Archdeacon of Middlesex. Easthaugh's wide knowledge of London, its people and its growing needs, enabled him to strengthen the life of the post-war church and singled him out as an obvious leader.

When he came to Hereford in 1974 he was presented with a very different scene. Now his ministry was to many small and often isolated parishes, to the changing pattern of the agricultural industry, to young families moving from the villages, and to retired people moving in.

Again his ability to understand people and gain their confidence was a great asset and many came to consult him. His extraordinary ability to sense situations, to break tensions, to get to the heart of the matter were gifts which he used to great advantage. Many a person knew his positive care and help in difficulty.

Easthaugh was concerned for the needs of the Cathedral

which would safeguard the map's future and pay for a new museum in the Cathedral grounds.

Easthaugh would not have called himself a theologian, but he will be remembered not only as the Bishop who was proud to be a member of the Showmen's Guild of Great Britain and to slide down the shelter-skerch when he opened the Hereford May Fair, but also as the Protector-General of the Anglican Society of St Francis. Above all, the people of his Diocese will remember him as a man of God.

He leaves a widow, Bridget,

two sons and a daughter.

NORMAN LILLY

Reviving 16th century song

Norman Lilly, the British singer and musical administrator, who founded the London Singers and the London Opera Group, died on January 22. He was 89.

Lilly, who was born in Leeds on March 8, 1900, was middle aged before he decided to make music his principal career, although during the interwar years he much in demand as a semi-professional singer, especially in oratorio. He was a tenor.

• SOME REVIEWS MAY BE REPRINTED
FROM SATURDAY'S LATER EDITIONSBelting
the bibleTELEVISION
Sheridan Morley

Last night's screening of Michael Palin's film *The Missionary* ("I want you to go out there, find out what people are doing and stop them doing it") came as a splendidly farcical footnote to the opening of Julian Pettifer's new Saturday BBC 2 series, *Missionaries*. What Pettifer has realized is that real-life missionaries are now richer than at any time in history. In a supposedly Godless age, they run vast radio networks and control a multi-million pound industry far removed from the primitive Victorian struggles of their predecessors.

In the opening programme of what promises to be a riveting sequence, Pettifer contrasted the glossy modernity of American broadcasting networks like NBC (Bear Christ Jesus Blessings) with wonderful footage of such early missionary movies as *Dwarfland and Cannibal Country*, which equated Christianity with clean white shirts and regular exercise. The "Have Christ Will Travel" business is now megachurch, and Pettifer was up there in Ecuador with a radio station guided according to its owner by divine radar (though God, perhaps not being an authority on FM frequencies, had situated them on the wrong mountain). Undeterred, the broadcasters continue, giving a bible belting such as it has never received before.

Talking of saintly figures, on BBC 1, *Everyman* last night told the story of the journalists on *El Spectador*, one of the largest daily papers in Colombia and the one that has been regularly dynamited because of its campaign against the local drug barons. Journalists have died, offices have been destroyed, but the paper comes out every morning with headlines of defiance in the war against cocaine. All of its reporters now live with fear in the bunker of a newsroom, and columns are written in the daily expectation that they will have to be published posthumously. But as one reporter said: "You can kill me, though you can't kill ideas. In fact, an idea grows stronger when you kill the man who expressed it". Four days later, the drug barons killed him too.

Joshua Sobol's *Ghetto* is playing in the city where its terrible events took place. Michael Freedland met the author

Vilnius faces its grim past

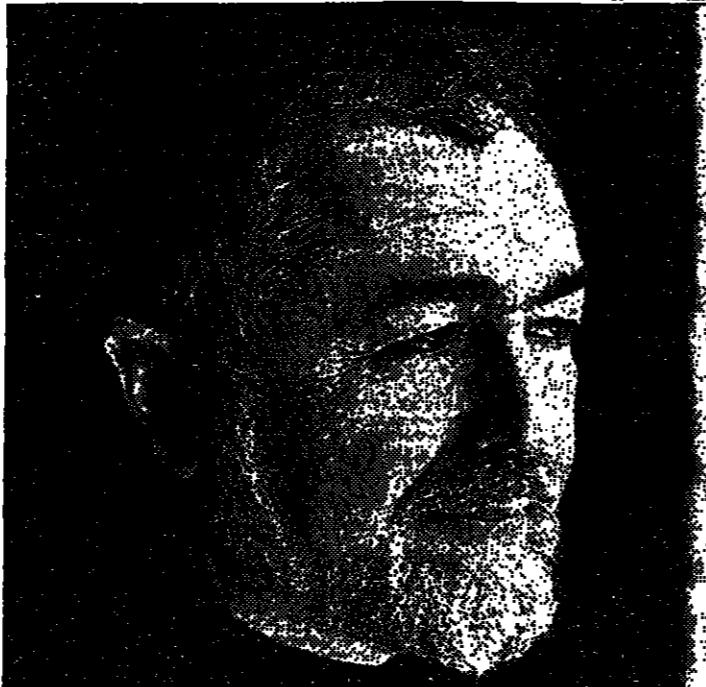
One notable proof that things have changed in the Soviet Union is a series of rehearsals now going on in the state theatre of the Lithuanian capital, Vilnius. While demonstrators march through the streets outside demanding independence, a group of actors calmly go about their business inside, telling of the time an independence movement of a different kind met a deadly end.

The play they are rehearsing is *Ghetto*, which last year had an unexpected success at the National Theatre in London. The play has now been produced all over the West, and the National production is about to be filmed. But there is no more appropriate place for it to be staged than Vilnius, for it is here that the play is set — or rather in the city that used to be known as Vilna.

Before the Holocaust, Vilna was one of the leading centres of Jewish religious scholarship; it was known as the Jerusalem of Lithuania. It was also a great centre of Jewish cultural life, which is why, when the Nazis established a ghetto there as a way-station for Auschwitz and the other camps, one of the first ways in which the imprisoned inhabitants tried to retain a semblance of sanity was to start a theatre. *Ghetto* is that theatre's story — and through it the story of the people living in the ghetto, their torment by the Nazis and the way the Jews own government, the "Judenrat", had to endeavour to save lives through a degree of co-operation.

For the past year the play's Israeli author, 50-year-old Joshua Sobol, has been living in London, partly to study theatre in Britain but also to work on two sequels to his play. They will go beyond the theatre, and deal with the Jewish resistance movement in Vilna and the subsequent slaughter of its members along with the rest of the ghetto's population.

Sobel is not sure that either of these sequels will find a market in Britain — even with the pedigree of the huge National success behind him. "I somehow don't think people will find them entertaining enough," said the quietly-



Joshua Sobol (left) says reaction to the National Theatre production (right) was "astonishing", but Vilnius may be his ultimate vindication.



Vilnius faces its grim past

spoken writer. "*Ghetto* was not a tremendous commercial success, but the reaction from people who saw it was astonishing."

In fact, Sobol is pleased with everything to do with *Ghetto* — except the Vilnius production. Not that he does not want it to be produced there. Like many, he sees this staging as both the ultimate tribute to what he did and the ultimate vindication of his attempt to show that Jewish life went on in the midst of impossible odds. He also recognizes that having it performed in what used to be called Vilna is extraordinarily symbolic. What did disappointed him was to be refused a visa to see the rehearsals for himself. "I am sure it was just an administrative mix-up. I hope so for heroes, not of cowards."

"*Ghetto* was symbolic in another way. It was the first play produced by an Israeli about the Holocaust. Until *Ghetto*, this horrific period in Jewish history had been left — as drama and literature were concerned — almost entirely to Holocaust survivors and others living in the Jewish diaspora. To

the native-born Israeli "sabra", it was the fighters of the 1948 War of Independence and the Six-Day War of 1967, and those who dared to execute events like the Entebbe rescue, who represented the kind of Jew they wanted to emulate. There had been a sort of contempt for what was perceived as the "lamb to slaughter" attitude.

"This is already an ordeal. It's

to admit that the Judenrat were not traitors, that it was one of the ways of struggling, that there was no demarcation line between saints and devils. This is probably one of the contributions of our generation, not just of writers but also of historians who deal with life in the ghettos.

"I have received letters from historians who say that my conclusions are much the same as theirs. But in Israel, dealing with the resistance, it becomes tricky."

There have been rows. When the second part of *Ghetto*, his play *Adam*, was produced in Israel, Sobol was the centre of an open controversy between some survivors who attacked my conception and others who defended it. Yet the play became a huge success at our national theatre in Tel Aviv. It started off in the small hall and was transferred to the big hall because so many youngsters in particular wanted to see it."

Sobel is one of a remarkable generation of Israeli writers who have achieved an international recognition that might have seemed impossible just a few years ago. His play, and the books of authors such as Amos Oz and David Grossman, have put Israeli literature on the world scene.

"I wouldn't say that our literature is good or bad, but it is interesting because it deals frankly with the most crucial events, the most tragic events, of our

century. It faces up to the most horrible moral questions that people have had to face this century, and how you go on living with them. And the Israeli predicament is so loaded with unsolvable questions that Israeli writers quite naturally get international attention."

Moreover, Sobol believes that Israeli writers have "played a part in getting people used to saying certain words. Thanks to the writers, Israelis are able to say openly the word 'Palestinian' when speaking about an Arab — not an Israeli Arab, but an Arab living under our occupation."

That was not the case until recently. A few years ago, for instance, Sobol wrote a play called *The Palestinian Girl* which was performed at the Haifa Municipal Theatre, of which he was a leading light. "We had people throwing back their subscriptions, so long as this title was on." They complained about the title, not about the story — about the love of an Israeli girl for a Palestinian boy. They didn't like the word Palestinian.

Unhappy
meal timeJAZZ
Clive DavisHoward Riley
The Vortex

Even in middle-age, the jazz avant-garde shows no sign of breaking out beyond a tiny coterie of enthusiasts. All the hopeful talk about "freedom music" comes up against the harsh truth that the public invariably prefers to exercise its freedom to stay away.

That fact was brought home, once more, on the fourth night of the latest Vortex "Project", devoted to the Yorkshire-born pianist Howard Riley. Part of the Stoke Newington venue's brave, not to say suicidal, policy of promoting Free Jazz, the residency opened with a solo recital, and continued with trio and duo performances from such veterans as Elton Dean and Eddie Prevost.

Thursday's set by Riley's trio should have been the real crowd-puller. In the event, the group opened to an audience of perhaps 20. After the first number, one party of diners, probably expecting background music à la Oscar Peterson, asked the musicians to turn down the volume.

The audience reaction was predictable enough. Compared with the music on Riley's Spotite album, *Feathers*, this was a thoroughly abrasive performance. In the studio, Riley and his compatriots — bassist Marie Castrovilli and drummer Tony Marsh — explored an ethereal form of improvisation whose spacious piano chords took the music back towards Paul Bley. With grounding in more conventional jazz, the rhythm players formed a sensitive contrast to Riley's dissonances.

Marsh was unable to appear at the Vortex. His place was taken by Tony Levin, whose strident and erratic pulse formed the core of the onslaught. Riley kept pace with thunderous motifs which sketched the barest of outlines. Castrovilli's bass interludes offered the sole respite before Riley embarked on the one standard of the set, "In A Semifinal Mood".

Ellington's melody is the most overplayed ballad in the book, and Riley's sardonic, crabwise ascent across the opening bars seemed to be making the same point.

Riddle of the disruptive drum

CONCERTS
Richard MorrisonBBC SO/Davis
Barbican

The crazy sidedrum improvisation which attempts, but fails, to wreck the climax of the first movement in Nielsen's Fifth Symphony is one of music's most spectacular riddles.

Does it stand for a violent intrusion into peaceful life — a memory, possibly of the First World War, and a (considerably more flamboyant) forerunner of the crushing march in Shostakovich's "Leningrad" Symphony?

Or a glimpse of how easily a hard-won social harmony can disintegrate into anarchy if individual selfishness prevails? Or perhaps a

premonition of the death of symphonic music itself as the 20th century progressed?

There is, of course, no single "right answer". The piece is an epic jostling of many seemingly unrelated elements: weird woodwind howls and skirls are mixed with sonorous brass chorales; wild bitonal clashes with the most serene fugal passages. Any number of interpretations can be made to fit, yet finally it is the masterly musical logic — Nielsen's absolute certainty of direction — that compels the listener's awe.

When one has the chance, that is. Generally, Nielsen's music is still inexplicably allowed to gather dust, like a bottle of some homemade brew too potent to consume. Now, however, as part of Radio 3's new Scandinavian season, the BBC Symphony Orchestra and Andrew Davis are making a

worthy effort to win more fans for Nielsen and Sibelius.

Saturday's performance of Nielsen's Fifth was a fine advertisement. It was pugnacious and tough in the right places, admirably prepared in the finale's testing and exposed first fugue (built magnificently from a skittish lightness to a tremendous roar); and gloriously alive to both the drama and the humanity of the music.

Earlier there had been a rare opportunity to hear Sibelius's wonderfully pictorial *Night-Ride and Sunrise*, played with much vigour. Then Ulf Hoelscher gave a strong and intelligent account of Sibelius's Violin Concerto. His is not the world's sweetest tone, nor perhaps its neatest technique, but he dug into the challenging passagework with exactly the right kind of passionate ferocity.

Paul Griffiths

Borodin Quartet
Wigmore Hall

Part of the particularity of Alfred Schnittke is that his music is regularly and passionately performed by star musicians, many of whom will be in London during the next couple of weeks to give us a crash course in Schnittke.

The main Schnittke work in this opening recital was his Third Quartet of 1983, a piece already familiar through recordings, but given a new, lean vividness by the special qualities of the Borodins: the leader's acute brilliance of tone, allowing him to flicker between radiance and ferocity; the energetically contrapuntal playing of the ensemble; and their use of a wide range of vibrato, which was exceedingly useful in a piece that goes from the white tone of a Lassus cadence to the near hysteria of Beethoven's "Große

Fuge" theme being geared up.

This was also a case of excellent programming. Schnittke, as an iconoclast more wounded than wounding, is very obviously Shostakovich's successor, but the older composer's Sevenths and Eighths quartets were particularly relevant to the younger one's Third. Here in the Seventh was the same parsimony of material, fierceness of tone and omnipresence of tonal cadencing as an easy escape route, while the Eighth gave room for Shostakovich's own DSCH motif to expand out of its quotation in the Schnittke. It also enabled the Borodins to conclude with a compellingly steady vision of that estrangement felt and projected by both composers: the slow finale was breathtakingly beautiful and raw at the same time.

There was also a curiosity: the Mahler Piano Quartet (Lindemann was the pianist), with a second movement written by Schnittke around and towards a theme sketched by Mahler.

Parental soul search

DONALD COOPER



The Real World?: Marcus D'Amico, Shauna Baird and Olivier Pierre

THEATRE
Jeremy KingstonThe Real World?
Soho PolyB.S. Johnson (experimental novelist, now dead) titled one of his books *Aren't You Rather Young to be Writing Your Memoirs?* Watching this play by Michel Tremblay (experimental playwright, happily still alive) I found myself asking isn't he rather old to be writing about boorish fathers who just do not understand their artistic sons?

The setting is a comfy living room in Montreal in the summer of 1965, when Tremblay himself was 22 and writing his first play.

Young Claude, the hero, has given his mother his first play to read and she is deeply offended by what she finds there. She finds herself portrayed as a long-suffering saint in silk twinset who finally turns on the father, a been-swilling salesman, and utters the scorn the son has always longed to hear, damning him in particular for nearly raping their daughter in her puberty.

What follows contrasts the play world with the real world. To quote B.S. Johnson again: "Telling stories is telling lies."

Tremblay, who is Canada's leading dramatist, often plays cunning tricks with stage conventions and in this play he doubles the real confrontations between Claude and his folks with the more

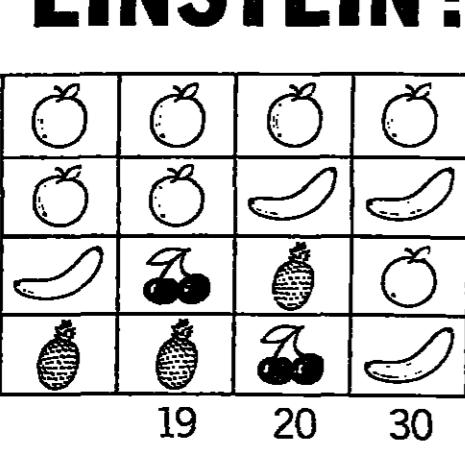
explicit versions in Claude's play, *Alex I*, the real father, yells for a beer and slumps in the armchair; *Alex II* emerges through the wall-hung net curtain to make this possible, and does likewise.

Other authors writing about incest have felt the need to present characters alongside their real-life counterparts — Pirandello's *Six Characters in Search of an Author* and Anouilh's *La Gouale* both do so — and it is disappointing that Tremblay reveals such awkward stagecraft in this area. His play-mother is dull, though not helped by a hands-at-the-side performance by Lisa Bermond.

The real mother is written and played with greater depth, and Pamela Merrick's red hands look as if she actually does slave in the kitchen cooking beef.

Lisa Forrell's direction has not found a way to sustain interest in the early, lengthy duologues though the pace does quicken with the appearance of the daughters (Shauna Baird, Sara Stewart) and when Claude finally delivers the look-at-me speech to his father.

Though obliged to freeze while his surrogates strut their stuff, Marcus D'Antico's Claude, callow and earnest, captures the look of a hurt young author, passionately jealous for his literary baby. Stephen Hoye and Olivier Pierre give interestingly different versions of the father, though too much is repetitious and unsatisfactory. All the characters are cursed with that irritating dramatic vice they cannot keep to anything but the point.

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Psychedelia and pseudo-polka

ROCK
Alasdair CreweThey Might Be Giants
University of London

They Might Be Giants take a perverse delight in toppling perceptions of what a rock band should be like. Strolling on stage like Sophomores back from vacation, the two Johns, Flansburgh and Linnell, looked unctuous and normal.

Yet the band inhabit the same "gee, what a weird bunch humans are" territory claimed by Talking Heads, except that they do it with laughs. Their *faux-naïf* lyrics could have been scribbled on the backs of envelopes and then posted to the wrong address. It is hard to decide whether they are incredibly smart or just dumb.

Do not be fooled by the mock philosophical stance, though — the band throw up some infinately catchy tunes. They betray a

dazzling variety of influences, from head-buzzing psychedelia in the chart-bound single "Birdhouse in Your Soul" to driving country rock in "Lucky Ball and Chain".

However, they are not above throwing in the odd polka and, perplexingly, the underlying feel is that of the music hall — "Istanbul (not Constantinople)" and "Shoe-horn With Teeth" are pure vaudeville.

Creating the hyperactive, many-textured sounds the band

achieves on record would be near impossible, so they do not even try. Instead, they use backing tapes to add a pounding bass-heavy rhythm section to the pared-down guitar and accordion topped up on occasion by those lesser-known rock instruments: the bass sax, metronome and big bass drum.

Such reliance on pre-recorded tapes might have resulted in a mechanical, soulless parade of musical trickery, but they manage to avoid this by reinterpreting the songs — a broad selection from the new Elektra album, *Flood*, as well as from older indie albums — to exploit the strengths of live instrumentation.

Neither do they need lessons in stagecraft. Guitarist Flansburgh bounces like a hyperactive Clark Kent puppet; while Linnell is a sardonic, static presence behind his oversize accordion. It is not, in any case, the easiest instrument with which to perform on-stage gymnastics. The audience, at times unsure whether to laugh or dance, somehow managed to do both.

For laughs: Flansburgh, Linnell

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MONDAY PAGE

جامعة لندن

Three working mothers tell Liz Gill how their ideal Budget would help women — and boost the economy

If Vicky Pryce were a chief economist with the Treasury, rather than with Pern Marwick McIntosh, the accountants, next month's Budget would be more radical than even the "mothers' Budget". John Major is rumoured to be considering.

Pryce's Budget would, for a start, allow her to claim tax relief on the money she pays a nanny to look after her four children.

"I think we should be able to offset all childcare arrangements against tax," she says. "The cost can be horrendous, and at the moment it's worth being a working mother only if your income is high enough."

As a partner in the firm, Pryce, aged 37, has both the substantial salary and the career incentive to keep working. For countless other women, however, low pay, inflexible hours and inadequate support systems make the equation much less clear-cut.

It is all very well, they would argue, to talk about the need to attract mothers back into the labour force to fill vacancies and ensure economic prosperity over the next decade, but perhaps the time has come for the Government to put its money where its mouth is.

Pryce suggests financial incentives for employers hiring women who have taken a career break.

"One of the most significant problems for such women is that they may not be hired at all because they have less experience than another candidate. Or they may be taken on at lower rates. One solution would be to allow a company to claim some of the woman's wages back in tax. In effect, it would be a type of subsidy. The Government could also encourage and pay for retraining.

"I don't know if such measures would breach equal opportunities legislation in that they would discriminate in favour of women. But an argument would be that men already have an advantage, so all we are doing is redressing the balance."

Pryce believes incentives should be given to companies to set up and run workplace nurseries. The few nurseries that do exist have proved a mixed blessing because the Inland Revenue regards them as a perk, like a company car, and taxes them accordingly.

"The taxman should either ignore them or charge only a very small proportion," Pryce says. "Workplace nurseries are, of course, not suitable for some people, especially anyone with a job that demands a lot of flexibility. There's also the stress of having to bring your child all the way in to work and back, which is particularly difficult in London, and it also might make it difficult to separate work and home. But nurseries do suit a lot of people,



Youthful priorities: Vicky Pryce and (from left), Georgia, aged 14; Lydia, nine months; Nico, 5; and Alexandra, 11

Hoping for a Major change

which is why companies that provide them should be helped."

Pryce, who has three girls and a boy, aged from nine months to 14 years, took only six weeks off for each birth. The brevity of her maternity break was dictated, she says, by financial necessity, which is why she would like to see considerable improvements in statutory maternity pay.

"You get six weeks on something like 90 per cent of your salary and then it plummets. Some employers are very generous, but others are not. The tax system could encourage improved leave and pay."

"If these things were improved women would take their work more seriously. A lot of women don't try to have a career at all. Women can be faced with terrible choices, and often the great attraction is to forget all about going back to work. Countries that have the best systems have the highest percentages of women in reasonable jobs."

Eileen Doherty, a tax consultant with accountants Price Waterhouse, agreed: "It's all very well saying you get six months' leave and your job will be safe, but if during most of that time you're only picking up something like £30, when you've been relying on your salary, it's pretty useless."

Doherty, aged 30, works three days a week and during that time her two-year-old son is cared for by his grandparents. Although this arrangement suits her, Doherty would like to see more state spending on nurseries and an end to treatment of workplace nurseries as a perk.

"Companies could also be encouraged to set up facilities by increasing their capital allowances in the early years."

She says one of the biggest difficulties is recruiting women who are drawing benefits. The low pay of many of the jobs available means

women are no better off, especially if they incur considerable childcare costs.

"The poll tax could make things worse. A woman on benefit who is likely to get most of her poll tax paid is unlikely to want to go out to work to pay for it."

"What women want is choice and the money to pay for it. Probably the simplest way of achieving this would be to increase personal allowances for parents. I would abolish the married couples allowance, which comes in with independent taxation, and replace it with this allowance for parents. The allowance could also be greater for those with children aged under five, or less for those with a workplace nursery, so that someone doesn't benefit twice."

"The Chancellor could also increase child benefits, which would help the non-taxpayer. One way to boost women's pay would be to introduce a statutory minimum

wage. One of the big problems is that despite equal opportunities legislation, there still tends to be women's work and men's work, and women's work is not as well paid. I suppose if I were being really frivolous I'd suggest the Chancellor give women an extra tax allowance to compensate for this fact."

"I certainly think the incentives should come from the state. There are real problems that must be tackled, but with the best will in the world you cannot ask people who are in the business of making a profit to lose money because something might be morally right."

"If you make employers pay, there could be a detrimental effect and no one would want to employ women. It's bad enough as it is."

Ally Scott, who recently returned to her job as a product development manager for Kleinwort Benson's private banking division after having a baby daughter five months ago, suggests a back-to-work grant.

"Just finding childcare is a costly business and may have to be done when a couple is financially at a low ebb," she says.

She considers childcare vouchers, which can be used as a mother thinks best, a valuable scheme which should be encouraged, but says: "You have to remember that women tend to be the carers not only of children, but often of elderly parents, the disabled, or chronically ill members of the family. You may need the system to cover them, too."

"The overriding consideration is that it must be economically viable for women to work. You need help both for the individual and the employer."

"And you mustn't forget that working mothers are, in turn, employers with responsibilities to their staff. It's ridiculous that I must pay my nanny out of my post-tax income and then she has to pay tax. The money is taxed twice."

High interest rates force many women into work to cover mortgage repayments. In easier times they might not be so inclined. "We must find ways of getting women to work for the joy of it as well," Scott says.

Tax incentives, allowances, grants and other measures have their price, but it may be less than sceptics imagine, she says. Women who take jobs create new ones in the support services.

Better pay and tax concessions for parents are likely, in turn, to improve the rates they pay for domestic help, of which a substantial part is part of the black economy.

Pryce says: "There may be short-term costs, but in the medium to long term there could be a net gain to the Exchequer because of the income tax contributions of more working women."

Charity's new male order

The face of those who give time and money to the less-fortunate is changing

Are women more charitable than men? A new Charities Aid Foundation survey suggests they are, particularly in the 18 to 24 age group, where 41 per cent of women give between £30 and £100 a year, compared with 28 per cent of men.

Even bigger differences emerge as the stakes get higher: 18 per cent of women in the same age group part with £100 or more compared with a mere 6 per cent of men.

"Women have traditionally been bigger givers than men," says Dr Peter Halfpenny, who analysed the survey. "They tend to be swayed more by emotive issues or else might work in nursing or childcare fields where charitable donations are part of the work ethos."

"After the age of 25, men become slightly more generous. Nineteen per cent of the 25 to 44 age group give £100-plus a year, compared with 31 per cent of similarly aged women. Men give slightly more than when they were younger because they have greater disposable incomes, and also because they might have children, their conscience is touched. But women still tend to stay ahead in the giving of both time and money, partly because they come into more contact with children and deserving causes."

But if the foundation's survey does not point to anything new, some of the larger charities do. "Men are seeing themselves as becoming more caring," Heather Budge-Reid, a spokeswoman for Action Aid, the overseas aid foundation, says. "In a recent Harris Poll, we found only 34 per cent of men felt women cared more about the Third World than they did. The rest maintained that they had firm feelings too."

Such beliefs have not yet been translated into action: 66 per cent of those who fill out the forms for sponsoring overseas families are women. However, it is often the husband's cheque which comes in.

Action Aid is hoping to work on this: it still gets a larger response from advertising in women's magazines than from a more general readership. It also finds that women give a fairly even mixture of time and money, while men tend to assure their consciences with a cheque rather than labour.

"Another trend is that where as many of our female supporters are unmarried, we don't have the same support from single men who don't have families to prompt them into giving."

One charity which has succeeded in making men reach for their wallets is the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, which last month directed an appeals campaign at men to balance out its main sponsorship profile (women between 55 and 60, often with no living children). "We purposely made the package as macho and exciting as possible, showing inspectors going down drains to rescue animals," Jane Gommersall, the RSPCA's marketing officer, says. "Donations are still coming in but we've had

vey. "About men did office work and directed female task forces," Halfpenny says.

No doubt this causes a fracas or two. Women in Fund-Raising Development — an umbrella group that enables women in different charities to discuss ideas — was formed two years ago to create an alternative. "At that time, charity management was very male-dominated," recalls Willi Bell, a marketing director and member of WFRD.

"Most managers were male and on a senior level, so women felt the need to meet in a non-threatening, friendly and sensitive atmosphere." So far, Bell says, the organization has not had any applications from men, but it would consider each one on its own merits.

A similar organization, the Institute of Fund-Raising Managers (60 per cent of whose membership is male), points out that a change in charity-giving is inevitable. "In the past, sponsors were mainly well-heeled, middle-aged ladies. Now society is becoming more aware and charities are being forced to broaden their appeals."

Perhaps the final word should go to the 15-year-old schoolboy, who, on winning The Times Platinum Portfolio competition this month, said that most of his win would go to charity.

Jane Bidder

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Is the battle with cruelty still not won?

A proposal being debated today by the EC may lead to more animal testing of cosmetics



Animal testing: widespread anger at the practice has changed the face of the cosmetics industry

A European Commission proposal which could increase the need for animal testing of cosmetic ingredients is causing concern among industry representatives determined to end the practice. The proposal, to be discussed today by the European Community, will force cosmetic companies to provide an inventory of all cosmetic ingredients and detailed assessments to support their continued use.

Marion Kelly, director-general of the Cosmetic, Toiletry and Perfumery Association, which represents companies selling cosmetic products in the UK, is spearheading a campaign against it. She says it will be a "cosmetic solution for the benefit of bureaucrats" and could lead to needless animal suffering.

Animal testing of cosmetics has angered many British consumers — as many as 90 per

cent of women questioned in some industry surveys say they want an end to the practice — and a growing number of companies is labelling products "cruelty-free".

Kelly says the proposal will require testing of common substances, such as honey, lemon or henna, which have long been used without any ill-effects. "Where no test data exists, companies may now be forced to provide it. That will mean tests on animals."

When a similar inventory was proposed for chemicals, new safety data were not required, Kelly says. A "grandfather clause" said that chemicals previously considered safe would still be acceptable, although new materials would need to be tested.

Kelly says the idea of a cosmetics inventory appears good. Many customers would prefer ingredients to be listed on packaging, a practice pioneered in Britain by Cosmetics To Go, the "cruelty-free", mail-order make-up company and experimented with in other European countries.

Joseph Piccioni, managing director of Beauty Without Cruelty, which pioneered cruelty-free cosmetics in Britain 23 years ago, says: "We concede that animal testing is the only option with new ingredients, but we do not use them."

"We stick with ingredients which have been in use since before the 1976 Cosmetics Directive, which this draft proposal would amend."

The more recent the product, the more likely it is to have been tested on animals,

he says. "No company can claim it uses only ingredients that have never been animal-tested."

Body Shop, which last week launched an independent campaign against animal testing, says no such testing is carried out by the company or in its name.

David Davies, a spokesman, says Body Shop's lobby against the proposed inventory, alongside the British Union for the Abolition of Vivisection.

"The directive is aimed at

human safety, which, on the face of it, is highly laudable," he says. "The concern is that the EC will look to its scientific committee, which is prone to animal testing. Five hundred years of safety may not be enough for them."

But does the argument surrounding animal testing conceal less altruistic concerns of the cosmetics industry? Only a few types of ingredients, such as preservatives, sunscreens and colours, are now approved by the commission; other ingredients can be used unless they are specifically prohibited. However, if the proposal is adopted, the burden of proof for an ingredient will be on the industry. This could be costly.

Products could be kept off the shelves and manufacturers forced to reformulate ingredients in cases where necessary data was unavailable.

"The financial aspect is not our main fear," Kelly says. "The industry is committed to the ultimate eradication of animal-testing."

If the meeting today shows that the inventory is to proceed, the cosmetics industry will, she says, begin to put on its warpaint in earnest.

Victoria McKee

Glasnost with an American accent

How does Rita Dapkus (left) a PR executive from Chicago, enjoy her new job — educating Lithuanians in the West's image-making ways?



Rita Dapkus once organized press meetings with Chicago senators. Now she sits in a fourth-floor room in Vilnius, the capital of Lithuania, organizing a team of 10 to bring public relations to the Soviet Union.

"I can't think of a single thing that could be similar in the two cases," she says. "You can't imagine what troubles I'm going through to get the team to pick up the phone and say: 'Hello, Good morning. How are you?'"

The American-born Lithuania left her PR office in downtown Chicago four years

ago. While on a sabbatical in Vilnius, she joined Sajudis, the Lithuanian independence movement, which has appointed her director of its information office.

"They hired me to clean up the organization's mess. They didn't have set schedules or anything. I have been pushing Sajudis for some time to try and understand public rela-

tions. They never needed it before in the Soviet Union."

Her efforts came to fruition last month with President Gorbachov's visit to Vilnius. The Sajudis banners had been translated into English: "Red Army Go Home"; "Gorbachov Go Home". The western media responded with the photographs for which Sajudis had hoped.

"When Sajudis formed its Constituent Congress in 1988, I had a hard time convincing them that the arrival of the foreign Press was a breakthrough," Dapkus says. "Now they are opening up to the idea that they can play a similar strategic game to Gorbachov."

Despite the growing enthusiasm for her methods, Dapkus feels the ethic of PR as a service industry remains an anathema. "It's the Soviet system. You go into a restaurant and the waiter is the boss. He can tell you there's none of this or that, even when there is because he

knows he's always going to get paid. And here I am trying to tell them that you're the servant of your clients."

After her four years in American PR, Dapkus arrived in Vilnius in 1986 as the first winds of *glasnost* blew into the Baltic states.

Her divided national loyalties were quickly forgotten when she saw the incredulous excitement which greeted each new slap in the face of authority.

By June 1988, Sajudis had been formed by a handful of intellectuals, and brought ralies of tens of thousands to the streets. "You suddenly felt this huge current of popular opinion. It was like a kettle that was about to blow."

Dapkus returned briefly to the US with plans to resume her career, but again found herself torn between events in Vilnius and her Chicago ambitions. She had been made

to America to earn some dollars?"

"But to get western PR," she says, "you've got to have western dollars."

Tom Giles

Pick of the Week

CHRISTIE'S

LUCIO FONTANA is best known as the Italian painter of slashed canvases. Since the 1950s and 1960s when most of these works were executed, he has emerged as a major force in contemporary art, and has been the subject of several books and exhibitions. All his two-dimensional works are titled *Concreto Spaziale*, and the slashes suggest a further dimension beyond the surface of the picture. This fine example, executed in green idropittura (water-based paint), is included in the sale of Contemporary Art at Christie's, King Street, on Thursday, 22 February at 2.30 p.m.

INFORMATION SERVICE

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THEATRE

LONDON

★ **BLOOD BROTHERS:** Willy Russell's semi-autobiographical separated twins destroyed by the English class system; Kidd Dee as their mother. Albany Theatre, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (01-867 1115). Tube: Charing Cross. Mon-Sat 7.45-10.45pm, mats Thurs 3-6pm, and Sat 4-7pm, 23.50-26.50. (D)

★ **EXCHANGE:** Martin Jarvis heads the cast in Michael Frayn's translation of Lopukhov's *Meeting* by Trigorin: flat-searching and heart-searching in modern Soviet Union.

Vaudeville Theatre, Strand, WC2 (01-836 9987). Tube: Charing Cross.

Provisions from 7.45-9pm, 23.50-26.50. Mon-Fri 7.45-9.55pm, Sat 8.15-10.25pm, mats Wed 3-5.10pm and Sat 5.7-10pm, previews £5.50-£13, from Thurs 25-15.50.

★ **JEFFREY BERNARD IS UNWELL:** Peter O'Toole gives his best and funniest performance in years in the well-crafted *Jeffrey's Diary*, located into his favourite pub overnight and meeting figures from his past.

Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury Ave, W1 (01-437 2663). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 8.30pm, Sat 8.45pm, Sat 5.30pm, 23-25.

★ **THE LIAR:** Jonathan Miller's spirited production of the sparkly *Comedie humaine*. Alastair Sim is marvelously as the shyster hero and Desmond Barrit as his inexcusably servent.

Old Vic Theatre, Waterloo Rd, SE1 (01-928 7616). Tube: Waterloo. Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, Sat 7.45pm, mats Wed 2.30pm and Sat 5pm, 23-25.

★ **A LIFE IN THE THEATRE:** Denholm Elliott and Samuel West in Merton's study of an old actor and his ambitious son. *Jeffrey's Diary* is stronger than the play. Last night.

Strand Theatre, Aldwych, WC2 (01-836 2660). Tube: Covent Garden. Tues-Sat 8pm, mats Thurs, Sat and Sun 4.30pm, 23-25.15.50.

★ **MAN OF THE MOMENT:** Michael Gambon and Peter Bowles superb in Ayckbourn's masterly harsh comedy: good meets evil on the Costa del Sol. Goblet Theatre, Shakespeare Ave, W1 (01-437 2663). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 7.45-10.15pm, Sat 8.30-11pm, mats Wed 3-5.30pm and Sat 5.7-7.30pm, 23-25.15.50.

★ **MISS SAIGON:** Great new musical, with Jonathan Pryce: thrillingly staged. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, WC2 (01-831 6108). Tube: Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 4.15-10.30pm, mats Wed and Sat 5.45pm, 23-22.25.

★ **MY HEART'S A SUITCASE:** Frances Barber in Clare McIntrye's new play tries to sort out her life on a Brighton Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Sq, SW1 (01-745 7245). Tube: Sloane Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm, mat Sat 4pm, 24-25.

★ **NOEL AND GERTIE:** Patricia Hodge and Simon Callow star, sing and dance in Sheridan Morley's trip down Memory Lane.

Comedy Theatre, Pantin St, London SW1 (01-830 2578). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.30pm, mats Wed 2.30pm, Sat 5pm, 23-25.20.

★ **RETURN TO THE FORBIDDEN PLANET:** Cult hit crams *The Tempest*, sci-fi and rock 'n' roll into a crazy show. Cambridge Theatre, Seven Dials, WC2 (01-379 5259). Tube: Leicester Sq. Mon-Fri 7.30pm, Sat 8.30-11pm, mats Fri, Sat 5pm, 23-25.20.

★ **WHEN WE DEAD WAKEN:** Claire Bloom in Espan Skjønberg in Ibsen's mounting swan-song. The Almeida Theatre, Almeida St, N1 (01-359 4404). Tube: Highbury & Islington. Preview tonight 8-10pm, opens tomorrow 7-8pm, then Mon-Sat 8-10pm, mat Sat 4-5pm, 24.50-25.20.

OUT OF TOWN

LEATHERHEAD: ★ How Steeples. Sinderby Wandering Wins the FA Cup: Stage version of J.L. Carr's touchingly funny novel.

Thordike Theatre, Church Street (0372 377677), Mon-Wed 7.30pm, Thurs-Sat 8pm, 23-25.

LIVERPOOL: ★ Tops of Money: Ayckbourn's NT version of the Aldwych farce in which very complicated problems follow a scheme to grab an inheritance. Playhouse, Williamson Sq (01-709 6353). Mon-Fri 7.30pm, Fri and Sat 8pm; mat Sat 4pm, 21-25.

MANCHESTER: ★ The Winter's Tale: Sean Baker in Phyllida Lloyd's directorial debut here; a Mobile Theatre production, touring from March.

Royal Exchange Theatre, St Ann's

2000 YEARS OF HISTORY - CUSTOMS AND COMMERCE: Meet St Paul's tube, 10.30am, £3 (01-524 9981).

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Square (01-833 9933), Mon-Thurs 7.30pm, Fri and Sat 8pm, 23.50-£13.

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Provisions from 7.45-9pm, 23.50-26.50. Mon-Fri 7.45-9.15pm, Sat 8.15-10.25pm, mats Wed 3-5.10pm and Sat 5.7-10pm, previews £5.50-£13, from Thurs 25-15.50.

★ **JEFFREY BERNARD IS UNWELL:** Peter O'Toole gives his best and funniest performance in years in the well-crafted *Jeffrey's Diary*, located into his favourite pub overnight and meeting figures from his past.

Apollo Theatre, Shaftesbury Ave, W1 (01-437 2663). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 8.30pm, Sat 8.45pm, Sat 5.30pm, 23-25.

★ **THE LIAR:** Jonathan Miller's spirited production of the sparkly *Comedie humaine*. Alastair Sim is marvelously as the shyster hero and Desmond Barrit as his inexcusably servent.

Old Vic Theatre, Waterloo Rd, SE1 (01-928 7616). Tube: Waterloo. Mon-Fri, 7.30pm, Sat 7.45pm, mats Wed 2.30pm and Sat 5pm, 23-25.

★ **A LIFE IN THE THEATRE:** Denholm Elliott and Samuel West in Merton's study of an old actor and his ambitious son. *Jeffrey's Diary* is stronger than the play. Last night.

Strand Theatre, Aldwych, WC2 (01-836 2660). Tube: Covent Garden. Tues-Sat 8pm, mats Thurs, Sat and Sun 4.30pm, 23-25.15.50.

★ **MAN OF THE MOMENT:** Michael Gambon and Peter Bowles superb in Ayckbourn's masterly harsh comedy: good meets evil on the Costa del Sol. Goblet Theatre, Shakespeare Ave, W1 (01-437 2663). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 7.45-10.15pm, Sat 8.30-11pm, mats Wed 3-5.30pm and Sat 5.7-7.30pm, 23-25.15.50.

★ **MISS SAIGON:** Great new musical, with Jonathan Pryce: thrillingly staged. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, WC2 (01-831 6108). Tube: Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 4.15-10.30pm, mats Wed and Sat 5.45pm, 23-22.25.

★ **MY HEART'S A SUITCASE:** Frances Barber in Clare McIntrye's new play tries to sort out her life on a Brighton Royal Court Theatre, Sloane Sq, SW1 (01-745 7245). Tube: Sloane Sq. Mon-Sat 8pm, mat Sat 4pm, 24-25.

★ **NOEL AND GERTIE:** Patricia Hodge and Simon Callow star, sing and dance in Sheridan Morley's trip down Memory Lane.

Comedy Theatre, Pantin St, London SW1 (01-830 2578). Tube: Piccadilly Circus. Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.30pm, mats Wed 2.30pm, Sat 5pm, 23-25.20.

★ **RETURN TO THE FORBIDDEN PLANET:** Cult hit crams *The Tempest*, sci-fi and rock 'n' roll into a crazy show. Cambridge Theatre, Seven Dials, WC2 (01-379 5259). Tube: Leicester Sq. Mon-Fri 7.30pm, Sat 8.30-11pm, mats Fri, Sat 5pm, 23-25.20.

★ **WHEN WE DEAD WAKEN:** Claire Bloom in Espan Skjønberg in Ibsen's mounting swan-song. The Almeida Theatre, Almeida St, N1 (01-359 4404). Tube: Highbury & Islington. Preview tonight 8-10pm, opens tomorrow 7-8pm, then Mon-Sat 8-10pm, mat Sat 4-5pm, 24.50-25.20.

★ **THEATRE:** This selective guide to entertainment and events throughout Britain appears from Monday to Friday, followed in the Review section on Saturday by a preview of the week ahead. Items should be sent to The Times Information Service, PO Box 7, 1 Virginia Street, London E1 9XN

FILMS

★ **Also on national releases**

★ **Advance booking possible**

■ **BLACK RAIN** (1987): Crime story directed by Ridley Scott about a hardened New York cop (Michael Douglas) pursuing a Japanese gangster through Osaka with Andy Garcia and Kiyoshi Atsumi. (123 mins). Cannon Baller Street (01-835 8772). Progs 2.10, 5.30, 8.10. Late Fri and Sat 11.00.

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TELEVISION & RADIO

Compiled by Peter Dear and Gillian Maxey

Writing-off physical disability

TELEVISION CHOICE

Peter Waymark

Channel 4's new strand of one-hour documentaries carries the title *Cutting Edge* and promises stories with a sharpness of approach and the ability to challenge and surprise the audience. I suppose most documentary series would claim much the same. However, this new one gets off to a strong start with *Just Some Stories For Eleanor* (Channel 4, 9.00pm). It is the story of Stephen Pegg, a former schoolteacher, who in 1987 was diagnosed as suffering from motor neurone disease. Since then, he has gradually lost the use of his limbs and voice and been unable to wash, dress or feed himself. He is completely dependent on his wife Rosalind who gave up her own teaching job to look after him.



Stephen Pegg: suffering from motor neurone disease (Channel 4, 9.00pm)

which she does 24 hours a day with hardly a night of unbroken sleep. But while his body wastes away, his brain has remained sharp and as some compensation for his physical disability he has developed his talent as a writer, using a head pointer to compose poems, start an autobiography and, not least, put together stories for his five-year-old daughter. He was much encouraged when his witty account of a day's television viewing won a competition and was printed in a national newspaper. Ian Tait's film records with sympathy and insight Stephen's attempt to come to terms with his predicament and the care and understanding of his supportive family. Stephen's humour, at least, has not deserted him. Trying out his new voice synthesizer, he remarks that he is now "marginally more coherent than Samantha Fox without a cue card".

• *World in Action* (ITV, 8.30pm) has got itself a television scoop by securing an interview with Alexander Dubcek, leader of Czechoslovakia's abortive bid for freedom in 1968 and now, thanks to President Gorbachov and glasnost, back on his country's political stage. The programme was made by Leslie Woodhead and David Boulton, who in 1980 produced *Invasion*, a documentary about the Prague Spring. A showing of *Invasion*, and a meeting with Julian Glover, the actor who played him, is the cue for Dubcek to look back on the coming of the Russian tanks and his humiliating journey to Moscow for a dressing down by the Soviet leader, Leonid Brezhnev. He goes on to give his assessment of Gorbachov and predict the future shape of Eastern Europe.

BBC 1

6.00 *Ceefax*
6.30 BBC Breakfast News with Kirsty Wark and Jill Dando. Includes regular news headlines, business regular reports, sports, weather, regional news, weather, travel information and a look at the morning news, with Peter Callan
6.35 Regional news and weather on *Open Air*. Viewers comment on the weekend's television
9.20 *Kirkby*. Robert Kirkby-Silk with the first of the week's discussions on the results of a survey about the things that worry young people. With an audience of teachers, parents and young people
10.00 News and weather followed by *The New Fred and Barney Show*.
10.25 *Open Air*. Simon Callow and Simon Parfitt, begin with *Playdays* (Richard Briers (r) 10.35 *Five to Eleven*, Geraldine McEwan with a reading)
11.00 News and weather followed by *Open Air*. Joining Gloria Hunniford and Eamonn Holmes is *Wish Me Luck*'s star Michael J. Jackson and Jane Shenton
12.00 News and weather followed by *Dayline Live*. Sue Cook and Andy Craig are joined by special guest Lucinda Lambton and there is music from the West End production of *Return to the Forbidden Planet*
12.35 *Regions* news and weather
1.00 *Over Cuckoo's Nest* with Michael Buerk. Weather
1.30 *Neighbours*. Nick is in trouble with the police again and Des has angry words when Leanne returns home. (*Ceefax*) 1.40 *Going for Gold*. Henry Kelly hosts another round of the European general knowledge quiz show
2.18 *The Six Million Dollar Man*: *Die Hard*. *Die Hard*. Someone is out to kill Oscar when he becomes involved in negotiations with the Russians. Starring Lee Majors and Richard Anderson
3.00 *Head of the Class*: *We Love You*. Mrs Russell, American high school comedy series
3.25 *Bazaar*. Janice Long meets six Aylesbury-based businessmen who are taking part in the Royal Easter Campaign. Linda Waterfall prepares a test recipe for the firefighters and Sally Ann Voak gets them in trim
3.50 *Two by Two*. Wildlife series presented by Jenny Powell (r) 4.05 *Stopit and Tidyup* narrated by Terry Wogan (r) 4.15 *The Further Adventures of SuperTed* 4.25 *Jackanory*. Douglas Hodge with part one of *Nina Bawden's 77s*
4.30 *Finding 4.35 Bravestars*. Animated science fiction series
5.00 *Newsround* 5.05 *Blue Peter*. (*Ceefax*)
5.35 *Neighbours* (r). (*Ceefax*)
6.00 *60 O'Clock News* with Peter Sissons and Moira Stuart. Weather
6.30 *Newsroom* South East
7.00 *Wogan*. Tonight's guests include veteran Hollywood star Lloyd Bridges and his actor sons, Jeff and Beau
7.30 *The Brits* 9.20 *British Record Industry Awards*. Cat McGowan hosts this year's Awards from London's Dominion Theatre, where a host of celebrities from the music and film worlds gather for nominations including the Best British Male and Female artist, Best British Group and Best British Newcomer. Making special appearances are Phil Collins, Nigel Kennedy, Lisa Stansfield, Soul II Soul and Neneh Cherry.
9.00 *90 O'Clock News* with Michael Buerk. Regional news and weather
9.30 *Plunkett's*: *Plunkett's Quiz – A Question of Loyalty?* John Ware reports on disturbing new evidence which suggests that the intelligence leaks to the Loyalists paramilitaries in Northern Ireland, currently the subject of a mainland investigation, are coming principally from the locally-recruited Ulster Defence Regiment
10.20 *Miami Vice*: *A Bullet for Crockett*. Sonny is gunned down in a drug raid and, aware of his critically-weak condition, reflects on his vice beat years
11.05 *Peggy Lee Entertains*. Peggy Lee sings her greatest hits from the 1940s onwards, in this concert specially recorded for the BBC (r)
11.50 *Advice Shop*. Hugh Scully and Helen Madding report on crime prevention schemes which emphasize the protection of people rather than property
12.30am *Weather*

ITV/LONDON

6.00 *TV-am* begins with *News and Good Morning Britain* presented by Richard Keys and, from 7.00, by Mike Morris and Lorraine Kelly. With 8.00, 8.30, 8.50 *Whidbey* featuring Timmy Mallett soaking up the sun and down in a series of *Pyramid Games*. Steve Jones returns with a new series of the word game. The celebrity guests this week are Bobby Davro and Sally James' 9.55 *Thames News* and weather
10.00 *The Time... The Place...* Topical discussion series chaired by Mike Scott
10.40 *This Morning*. Magazine series presented by Judy Finnigan and Richard Madeley. Today's edition includes items on astrology, gardening, fashion, food, travel and health. Also on *Today* is *Janet's Guide to Adoption* and *Jan Leeming's guide to adoption*. National and international news at 10.55 and regional news at 11.05 followed by *national weather*
12.10 *Playbox* 12.30 *Home and Away*. Stacey demands that Nicholas leave Summer Bay when she discovers he has been with John Suchet. Weather 1.30 *Thames News* and weather 1.30 *Hollywood Sports*. The viewers continue to decide the plot of this soap set in a health studio
2.00 *Films*: *Carry on Admiral* (1957, b/w) starring David Tomlinson, Peggy Cummins and Alan Babb. *Parcs* (1958) with a cast of a spiv and a parlimentary private secretary with a east-going-to-the-west officer and a parlimentary private secretary switching places and duties. Directed by Val Guest
3.25 *Thames News* and weather 3.30 *The Young Doctors*
4.00 *Nelle the Elephant*, with the voices of Tony Robinson and Lulu. *Pygmy Gorilla* (r) 4.15 *The Real Ghostbusters* (r) 4.40 *Children's Ward*. (Oracle)
5.10 *Who's the Boss?* Comedy 5.40 *News with Sue Carpenter*. Weather
6.00 *Home and Away* (r)
6.25 *Thames News* and weather
7.00 *Wish You Were Here*... 7.15 *Shaw Taylor* samples a luxurious *Conundrum* critique above the *Caravan* while, in the opposite end of the scene, *Caroline* reports on an organization which arranges breaks for families who would otherwise be unable to afford a holiday. (Oracle)
7.30 *Coronation Street*. *Perky Sudden* is up in arms about Mike Baldwin's new "business premises". (Oracle)
8.00 *Strike It Lucky*. General knowledge quiz
8.30 *World in Action*: *The Reconstruction of Mr Dubcek* (see *Choice*)
9.00 *Making News*: *Yes, We Have No Secrets*. The final episode of the drama series set around TMC, a television news channel. Having spent seven years in prison after being convicted of spying, Suzanne Critchley knows her story is worth a considerable sum of money, but is TMC willing to pay? (Oracle)
10.00 *News at Ten* with Alastair Burnet and Trevor McDonald. Weather 10.30 *Thames News* and weather
10.35 *Film* 10 to *Midnight* (1983) starring Charles Bronson, Lisa Eilbacher and Andrew Stevens. A sexually frustrated young man murders a girl who humiliates him and establishes an apparently perfect alibi. Directed by J. Lee Thompson
12.35 *The Sunday Times International Bridge Pairs Tournament*. The first live television coverage of a top bridge tournament
1.00 *Sportsperson Extra*. Tony Francis introduces action from the Home International tournaments, plus the weekend's football news and results from Britain and Europe.
2.00 *News headlines* followed by *Films*: *The Lady Corp* (1979) starring Miu-Miu, Jean-Marc Thibault and Lony Escudero. An unconventional tempest police inspector crosses a powerful businessman and his family with undercover a child prostitution racket. Directed by Yves Boisset
4.00 *News headlines* followed by 60 Minutes. Interviews and investigations from the United States
5.00 *ITN Morning News* with Phil Roman. Ends at 6.00

BBC 2

7.10 *Open University*: *Bath – A Theatre for Pleasure or Intrigue*
8.00 *News 8.15 Westminster*
8.30 *Ceefax* 9.00 *Daytime on Two* begins with a programme on automated homes for the elderly and continues with items on, among others, living with AIDS (at 9.45)
9.15 *12.15 Hitler's Germany* 12.35 *Starman* 1.00 *Electric Irons* 1.40 *Working on an arable farm*
2.00 *News* followed by a learning to read course 2.15 *50 Years of Presles* from Edinburgh (r). (*Ceefax*) 2.50 *Behind the Screen*. Neil Mullarkey talks to French and Saunders
3.00 *News* and weather followed by *The Yellow River*. Part four (r) 3.30 *Man and Boy* explore the Cotswold lakes (r) 3.50 *News and weather*
4.05 *Round the World*. Ludovic Kennedy traces the tracks of Robert Louis Stevenson when he migrated from New Jersey to California in 1859 (r). (*Ceefax*)
5.05 *Film*: *The Bitter Tea of General Yen* (1932, b/w) starring Barbara Stanwyck. Megan Davies arrives in Shanghai and becomes caught up in civil war. Directed by Frank Capra
6.30 *DEF II* begins with *Sabu TV* featuring the *Kreisler Orchestra*. 7.00 *A-Z of James Grant* talks about his Roman Catholic faith
7.30 *Young Musician of the Year* 1990. A new series begins with a percussion masterclass from the Scottish musician Evelyn Gethin
8.10 *Notices* 8.30 *14 Days*: An investigation into the early embryo research to find out what the United Kingdom's scientists are doing, and why
9.00 *Film*: *Right to Kill* (1985) starring Frederic Forrest, Chris Coletti and Justine Bateman. Drama based on the true story of a teenage brother and sister who, along with their mother, move to a new town and meet their father – until they decide they have the right to kill. Directed by John Erman
10.30 *Newsnight*
11.15 *The Late Show* includes a profile of Robbie Coltrane 11.55 *Weather*
12.00 *Open University*: *Arts Foundation Course*. Ends at 12.30am

CHANNEL 4

6.00 *The Channel Four Daily*
9.25 *Schools*
12.00 *Streetwise* (r)
12.30 *Business Daily*. Financial and business news service
1.00 *Sesame Street*. Preschool learning series
2.00 *The Open Learning Business*. The benefits which Open Learning offers to managers (r)
2.30 *Film*: *The Shop at Sly Corner* (1946, b/w) starring Oscar Homolka, Kenneth Griffith and Muriel Pavlow. Thriller about an ex-devil's island fugitive who is forced to take desperate measures when his daughter becomes the target of blackmail. Directed by George King
4.30 *Countdown*
5.00 *The Late Late Show*. Dublin's chat and music show
6.00 *Same Difference*. Libby Cross and Mark Todd report on the state of the arts, and ask whether it caters for the disabled people
6.30 *Happy Days*. American comedy series
7.00 *Channel Four News* with Jon Snow and Zinab Badawi
7.50 *Comment*. Followed by *Weather*. 8.00 *Brookside*. Sammy finds out just who her real friends are. (Oracle)
8.30 *Desmond's*: *A Microwave*. Five Men and a Baby. Desmond is left looking after a baby while Shirley and the kids go away for the weekend
9.00 *Cutting Edge*. *Star Search* for Eleanor. (Oracle)
10.00 *St Elsewhere*. A fire breaks out at the Doctor of the Year awards; Fucus breaks the news to Ehrlich's mother that he's disappeared; and Griffin awaits the outcome of his AIDS test
11.00 *One Man's House*. You, A young girl is struck down by the Black Death
11.05 *Peace* under Fire. The events leading to next Sunday's general election in Nicaragua
12.10am *France* Tour *Detour*. Jean-Luc Godard talks to young children about their view of the universe, and, more specifically, about life in France. (BFI *Open Air*)
12.45 *Accidents in the Kitchen*. *Accidents in the Home* Nos 7 and 6 and *Ulysses au Pays des Merveilles* (r)
1.05 *Animation*. *Verdun*, from Czechoslovakia, and *L'Or Bleu*, from France. Ends at 1.20am

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

5.00am *International Business Report*
5.30 *European Business Channel* 6.00 *DJ*
6.15 *Panel Pot Pourri* 10.00 *The New Price is Right* 10.30 *The Young Doctors* 11.00 *Sky By Day* 12.00 *Another World* 1.00pm *As The World Turns* 2.00 *Loving 2.30 A Problem Shared*
3.00 *Here's Lucy* 3.30 *Dennis 3.45 Captain Caveman* 4.00 *All Tales 4.30 The New Leave It To Beaver* 5.00 *Sky Zone Search* 6.00 *The New Price is Right* 6.30 *Sale of the Century* 7.00 *All 8.00 The Immigrants* 10.00 *Jameson Tonight* 11.00 *Sky News* 11.30 *Voyagers*

SKY NEWS

8.00am *International Business Report*
8.30 *European Business Channel* 8.00 *Business Report* 8.30 *Business Review* 8.45 *These Were The Days* 11.30 *International Business Report* 1.45pm *NBC Today* 2.30 *Parliament Live* 4.20 *NBC Today 5.00 Live at Five* 6.30 *Beyond 2000* 7.30 *The Reporters* 8.30 *Frank Bough* 8.30 *Newshome* 12.30 *Frank Bough 1.30 Newshome* 2.30 *The Reporters* 3.30 *Frank Bough* 4.30 *Newshome*

SKY MOVIES

From 8.00am *The Shopping Channel* 8.00pm *I Don't Know Who I Am*. An adopted girl decides to find her natural parents
3.00 *The Bridge of Adam Rush*: Set in the 1800s, a 12-year-old boy has to adapt to life in the wilderness
4.00 *Top Cat* and *The Beverly Hills Cate*: Action and adventure
6.00 *Heaven's Gate* (1987): Two souls return to Earth in search of romance. With Timothy Hutton and Kelly McGillis
8.00 *Power* (1986): A media manipulator for political candidates grows to detect his work. With Richard Gere
10.00 *Platoon* (1986): Charlie Sheen as a new recruit fighting in the Vietnam war, discovering torn loyalties and the folly of war (scratches)
12.00 *Return of the Living Dead* (1985): Hundreds of brain-eating zombies are accidentally released
1.45 *Love and Passion*: A psychosexual drama about four people caught up in a web of desire and emotion
3.45 *At the Pictures*: Cinema releases 4.00 *Hearts of Fire* (1987): A girl (Fiona Renegar) searches for stardom in the music world. Ends at 5.35am

EUROSPORT

5.00am *As Sky One 8.30 Menu 9.00 Football* 11.00 *Rugby Union – Five Nations* 12.00 *Football Grand Final* 1.00 *Tennis*
5.00 *NHL Ice Hockey*: *Minnesota North Stars* v *Edmonton Oilers* 7.00 *Motor Sport* 8.00 *Europe – What A Week* 9.00 *Ringside* – *Best of Superbouts*: *Muhammad Ali v Leon Spinks* 10.00 *Ice Hockey*

MTV

6.00am *Kristene Bacceri* 10.30 *At the Movies* 11.00 *Remote Control* 11.30 *Paul King 4.00pm 3 from 14.15 Paul King* 4.30 *Coca-Cola Report* 4.45 *Paul King* 5.00 *Remote Control* 5.30 *Ray Cokes* 6.00 *At the Movies* 6.00 *Ray Cokes 3.00 Chris Reis Interview* 11.00 *Coca-Cola Report* 11.30 *Malibu Waxo* 1.00 *Headbangers Ball* 1.30 *Music Night Videos*

SCREENSPORT

7.00am *Basketball 8.00 US Pro Ski Tour* 8.00 *Ice Speedway* 10.00 *1990 Martini Fencing Championships* 11.00 *Powersports* 12.00 *Track and Field* 1.30pm *Basketball 2.00 Football 4.00 Ice Speedway 5.00 US College Football* 7.30 *International Football* 9.15 *US Professional Boxing* 10.45 *Spain Spain Sport* 11.00 *Ice Hockey*

LIFESTYLE

10.00am *Fitness Minute* 10.01 *Search for Tomorrow* 10.30 *Fashion File* 10.35 *Wok With Yan* 11.00 *Coffee Break* 11.15 *Edge of Night* 11.35 *Great American Game Shows* 12.00 *What's Cooking* 12.30 *Family Quiz* 1.00 *What's Cooking* 1.30 *Carry On* 1.45 *Family Quiz* 1.50 *Carry On* 2.00 *What's Cooking* 2.30 *Carry On* 2.45 *Carry On* 3.00 *Carry On* 3.30 *Carry On* 3.45 *Carry On* 4.00 *Carry On* 4.30 *Carry On* 4.45 *Carry On* 5.00 *Carry On* 5.30 *Carry On* 5.45 *Carry On* 6.00 *Carry On* 6.30 *Carry On* 6.45 *Carry On* 7.00 *Carry On* 7.30 *Carry On* 7.45 *Carry On* 8.00 *Carry On* 8.30 *Carry On* 8.45 *Carry On* 9.00 *Carry On* 9.30 *Carry On* 9.45 *Carry On* 10.00 *Carry On* 10.30 *Carry On* 10.45 *Carry On* 11.00 *Carry On* 11.30 *Carry On* 11.45 *Carry On* 12.00 *Carry On* 12.30 *Carry On* 12.45 *Carry On* 1.00

TEMPUS

BAT still worth a bet – even without a bid

A successful bid for BAT is much more likely now that Sir James Goldsmith is willing to offer cash instead of junk bonds. Tempus looks at the demerger of BAT's highly-regarded Argos offshoot and the underlying value of the remaining operations.

After Sock Shop, Storehouse and Lowndes Queensway, the idea of the City becoming excited about a retail share flotation is hard to swallow. But one problem facing Dr Mike Smith and his team when they bring Argos to market next month is the danger of being over-hyped.

Fund managers are keenly awaiting the closely-guarded secrets of Argos's listing particulars.

But Morgan Stanley, the American securities group, is expecting the group to have a market capitalization of about £525 million.

Argos is raising no new money in the flotation which takes the form of a demerger from its parent BAT.

BAT shareholders will receive "free shares" in Argos and it will be up to the market to put a valuation on the group when dealings first start.

Argos was founded in 1973 and acquired by BAT for £35 million in 1979.

It now has 251 shops which are split into three categories, Argos Catalogue Showrooms offering 3,500 different products, Argos superstores offering 6,000 lines and Argos Bestsellers offering 2,200

lines. The shops are supported by twice-yearly catalogues.

Dr Smith, who has been with the group for 16 years, leads a team which has increased Argos's sales from £140.7 million in 1980 to £725 million in 1988 and operating profits from £2.4 million to £38.9 million. Argos has one of the best records on the high street.

The company is cash-positive and does not intend to take on debt to fund its expansion. The group has capital expenditure of £20 million-£25 million a year and has plans for 600 shops in the next 10 years. Argos makes a conscious decision to avoid primary sites other retailers compete for.

The phenomenal growth which Argos saw in the early 1980s appears to be slowing but the company is still expected to announce results for 1989 which out-perform the market.

Assuming the group is sensibly-priced, the shares are likely to perform well for several reasons. They will have a scarcity value and will only become available when BAT shareholders decide to sell. Argos is the only profit-

able retailer of its type, its record is excellent and the bid speculation is already strong.

**Appleton/
Wiggins Teape**

Appleton/Wiggins Teape, BAT's paper interests, have one thing in common with Argos. It is not impossible that both companies may receive takeover bids as soon as they are demerged.

For the paper operations, D-Day is June 1. Like Argos, the exercise takes the form of an issue of free shares to BAT holders and the value will be decided by the price set in the market in first day dealings. Before the event, A/WT looks like being a highly sought-after share.

The US operations of Appleton deserve to be highly-rated. For they are in the high-growth specialist areas of the paper market rather than the commodity end of the trade. Appleton has market leadership in carbonless paper where even in hard times for paper generally, there is little pressure for price discounting.

Kitcat & Aitken, believe that the group is showing signs of building a dominant position in fax paper.

Wiggins Teape has a more broadly-balanced business in specialist papers plus some interesting investments in *pulp manufacture*. It has steered clear of the low-margin commodity products such as newsprint and packaging.

Kitcat suggests that there are no quoted companies with



Cataloguing profits: Mike Smith, chief executive of Argos

the quality of A/WT and that its shares should trade at the top end of the US range for paper groups, which is broadly 7 to 11 times historic earnings, excluding any premium for takeover possibilities.

Sample opinion from three firms which follow paper shares indicates that A/WT merits a market capitalization of about £1.5 to £1.6 billion, which might make the group an instant constituent of the FT-SE 100 share index. Salo-

mon Brothers, the securities house, has run the demerger operation through its computers and says that BAT shares in their present form have a break-up value in the region of 1,075p per share which compares with a current market level of 810p.

This arises from an estimated £2 billion unlocked through demerging Argos and the paper group, a 26.9 billion valuation of BAT's financial services operations and associate holdings plus 27.4 billion from tobacco and other remaining activities. Less net debt this equates to £16.2 billion or 1,075p per share.

Salomon's appraisal concludes that BAT shares are worth a current market price of 885p and that Hoylake would have to bid around 950p for BAT in its present form to have a good chance of victory.

BAT holders should not

underestimate the problems which Hoylake, Sir James Goldsmith's bid vehicle, is facing in clearing the US regulatory hurdles. But on the latest market arithmetic, BAT shares look attractive even without a bid.

Smaller companies

As this column has had cause to point out before, in hard times a lack of glamour, dullness even, can be a virtue. Nowhere is this more so than

in the so-called Smaller Companies sector.

A feature of the rash of profits warnings that are beginning to emerge is that, with the exception of obviously-troubled sectors like housebuilding and retailing, they are often coming from the kind of fast-moving, acquisitive smaller companies that geared themselves up to the hit on the back of a glamour profile in better times.

As times get tough for large stockbrokers as well, some have been homing in on the Smaller Companies sector.

Citicorp Scrimgeour Vickers, for example, after closing down most of its market-making operations, has retained part of its team to build a portfolio of 100 stocks with market capitalizations of less than £300 million on which it will concentrate its research.

Barrie Govett's Smaller Companies Index, which covers a wide spread of 1,200 stocks, threw the sector into some gloom at the start of the year when it showed a 25 per cent underperformance against the market as a whole during 1989. But two new guides arriving on investors' desks this week offer a useful antidote.

Miss Ruth Keatitch at Schroder Securities sums up the general consensus. Go for proven management – ideally one that has survived the last recession in the early 1980s – and a strong balance sheet.

GILT-EDGED

Why the markets will be banking on a tough Budget

The gilt-edged market's expectations of John Major are rising. The tough rhetoric on curbing inflation has fed hopes of a tough Budget.

What investors would like to see on March 20, however, is a restatement of the Government's financial strategy.

It is doubtful whether the Chancellor will be able to be

specific about his medium-term fiscal and monetary targets without giving hostages to fortune.

Setting a monetary target could be especially tricky. The Government's favoured measure, M0, is likely to go on overshooting its 1.5 per cent target range this year even if inflation moderates.

Not only will the trading-down by consumers tend to boost M0 growth relative to the rate of expansion of nominal GDP, but also a further factor raising the M0 growth rate will be the increasing share of national income taken by wages and salaries as pay settlements stay high and company profits are squeezed.

If Mr Major sticks to the 1.5 per cent range as his target for M0 in the 1990-91 financial year, he is very likely to condemn himself to another year of monetary overshoot.

If he goes further and reduces the target, as many monetarist zealots are urging him to do, his problems will be even greater.

Though a monetary overshoot may not matter much if the excess growth in M0 is attributable to shifts in spending patterns, it could keep the financial markets in a state of anxiety as inflation expectations run high.

But if Mr Major were to take a realistic line and raise his M0 target, he will risk sending the wrong signal to wage negotiators.

One way out of this no-win situation would be for the Chancellor to substitute for the M0 target an objective expressed in terms of some other monetary variable.

The M2 measure has been a remarkably well-behaved statistic, comprising a range of assets which would be widely regarded as transaction money.

It might serve as a suitable target for government policy.

More likely, though, Mr Major will prefer to resort to the Treasury rubric that a range of monetary indicators will be watched. The danger is that the financial markets will regard the statement as too vague.

It is something they have

heard before, a strategy which leaves the Government latitude in its actions for exercising political discretion.

Before the Budget, sterling and the gilt-edged market will probably respond favourably to indications that a tough line will be taken against inflation.

Sterling is one of the few traditional high interest rate currencies where investors feel they do not have to worry about monetary relaxation in the near future.

If world markets increasingly moved by the ebb and flow of great events, it may be that interest rate differentials count for less than in the calmer days of 1989. But their impact is unlikely to have been lost altogether.

A firm exchange rate should help to contain inflation expectations in the weeks ahead.

Gilt may gain further support from hopes that the Chancellor will take fiscal action, at least to halt the decline in the PSDR. Signs of weakness in the economy will confirm the scope for improvement in the balance of payments.

After the Budget, investors may have second thoughts about gilts. If the Chancellor fails to meet the market's best expectation – and he will have a tough time succeeding – worries over inflation are likely to resurface.

Pay settlements will probably remain at least around present levels well into the summer, especially after the latest mortgage rate rise. As output growth slows, the damage at the level of unit wage costs will be increasingly evident.

The gilt market may also have been too quick to assume that this year's decline in the PSDR is mainly due to one-off factors.

Experience has taught that once a trend in public sector finances is established it often accelerates. There could be funding shocks in store in 1990-91.

Finally, although the current account of the balance of payments is improving, a weak domestic economy could be associated with capital outflows.

With sterling under periodic downward pressure as 1990 advances, there will be little joy for gilts in the exchange rate.

Stephen Lewis
Consultant
UBS Phillips & Drew

- Stock market comment: the general situation can be obtained by ringing 0898 121220.
- Company news: items relating to company news can be obtained by telephoning 0898 121221.
- The prices of shares actively trading in the stock market may be obtained by telephoning 0898 121225.
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لبنان

BAT lines up key witness in bid tussle with Hoylake

From Philip Robinson, Los Angeles

for \$4.5 billion to Axa Midi Assurances, the French insurance group.

Partners has argued that the money Axa intends to borrow to finance the Farmers acquisition and the additional \$1 billion it must raise to invest in Sir James's Hoylake Investments as part of the deal would be potentially harmful to the policyholders of Farmers.

A spokesman for Farmers said: "We regard the Californian hearing as important not just because it is the state in which we do most business, but because it is the only state

which has these debt ratios."

Axa has dismissed the argument, pointing to \$9 billion worth of assets in its parent company, saying that it makes more sense to borrow at relatively low American interest rates than pay cash.

Meanwhile, the formidable Madame Gilberte Beauch, personal investment bank adviser to Sir James Goldsmith for the past 20 years, has begun outlining the logic of the takeover for insurance regulators in Los Angeles.

She stands to make \$4.25 million if the deal goes through and, according to

close observers of the case, withstood three and a half days of intensive cross-examination at a similar hearing in Chicago. That will not happen in California. The insurance authorities have imposed strict time limits which give lawyers only one hour to cross-examine.

On current timing California is expected to be the first of nine states to reach a decision on the issue, which is expected by April 9. The Chicago hearing, which started last month, is still going on and a hearing in Idaho is due to start a week today.

Tiphook 'to pass £70m' in 1991

By Martin Waller

Two favourable broker's circulars singing the praises of Mr Robert Montague's Tiphook are expected this week, following its success in the nine-month battle with Sea Containers.

They are from Mr Karl Freckleton at Warburg Securities and Mr Clive Anderson at Kirtat & Aitken. Both houses are brokers to Tiphook, and they are looking for pre-tax profits in excess of £70 million for the year to end-April 1991, the first year to benefit from the Sea Containers deal.

Tiphook expects by the start of April to have control of 200,000 dry-freight containers. Sea Containers' European tank container operations, mainly for shipping chemicals, the USL tank manufacturing business and about 5,000 road chassis.

The deal, which needs only the clearance of Sea Containers' shareholders on March 15, puts Mr Montague at the head of the third biggest container group in the world, with about 8 per cent of the total fleet of 5 million containers.

The top two in the market, Gestar and Itel, both attempted to buy chunks of the Sea Containers empire, but



Hands on from day one: Robert Montague, chairman of Tiphook, soon to be third in world administration for three months after completion.

"From day one we actually start to see the controls completely in our hands. We can double the size of our container fleet on the existing administration and management team, with some fine-tuning as far as operations and marketing are concerned."

There are no redundancy costs arising out of the deal, as Tiphook is only acquiring the containers themselves, although their previous owner will continue to help out with

Hanson in talks on Peabody

By Colin Campbell

clear that, in allowing the ISE to use the provisions, Mr Ridley was not going back on recent assurances to the House of Commons select committee for trade and industry, concerning City regulation.

Following persistent reports that plans to switch the DTI's watchdog role to the Securities and Investments Board, the chief City overseer, he had ruled out changes in the present regime.

The ISE, which closely monitors share dealings for possible malpractice, has long wanted such powers and will probably seek to prosecute in clear-cut cases of insider trading. More complicated cases, requiring detailed investigation, would be left to the DTI.

The DTI was keen to make

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The DTI was keen to make

Young off forms

Cracking one or two painfully old City jokes – for example, about Chinese walls coupled with an observation that despite his many years in the building trade he could not recall ever having built one.

Lord Young, these days deputy chairman of the Conservative Party, was greeted with a mixture of cheers and boos as the guest speaker at the Society of Investment Analysts' annual dinner at the Grosvenor House Hotel in London last week. Complaining about the Financial Services Act and the number of forms he has had to fill in in his new position as a director of Salomon Brothers Inc, and chairman of its European operation, he was deemed to be only half-joking when he quipped: "I thought to myself, who the hell was the Secretary of State who introduced it?"

He then went on to compare the Britain of 1979 with the present day. "No way can you consider these two worlds as being the same country." But his ill-chosen example that "With Nissan and Toyota, we will soon be manufacturing as many cars as we buy," was greeted with muted calls from the floor of "Rover, Rover..." All in all, and despite numerous rowdy delaying tactics, the peer spoke for barely 10½ minutes, leaving brokers and fund managers, who had laid their usual bets on the length of his speech, badly out of pocket – the average estimate had been 18 minutes. Perhaps he really has tired of being a politician.

In view of City observations that Hanson, that billion dollar industrial group, is unnecessarily brief when giving financial details in its quarterly profits statements, perhaps Lord Hanson should be reminded of an advert for the company which appeared in December 1937 and was republished in its 1988 annual report. For Hanson's battery subsidiary, Ever Ready, the headline ran: "It's a shame to keep them in the dark!"

Jane's place

Having drawn the short straw – to cover the Guinness trial – Jane Alexander, a reporter for the Channel 4 programme *Business Daily*, arrived for the first day at Southwark Crown Court to find the press bench

full. Whilst a dismayed court official investigated the situation, since the number of seats should have corresponded with the number of press passes issued – one member of the Fourth Estate was subsequently ejected – Alexander was offered a seat in another area of the court. Ernest Saunders volunteered his own chair... in the dock. His offer was declined.

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GRAND METRO PUBLICAN



Carol Leonard

GrandMet and Elders near deal on swap

By Our City Staff

Mr Allen Sheppard, chairman of Grand Metropolitan, the food and drinks group, will today tell the annual meeting at the Grosvenor House Hotel, central London, that negotiations on a multi-million pound breweries-for-public houses swap with Elders IXL, the Australian group, are far advanced.

With urgent talks on the details of the complex deal underway, conclusion of the asset-swap could be announced on Friday when Mr John Elliott, the Australian head of the Elders empire, unveils his group's interim results.

A spokesman for GrandMet, commenting on weekend reports of an agreement, said categorically that the company had "not done any deal with Elders."

He also vigorously denied any suggestion that GrandMet was considering a rights issue in conjunction with the deal.

The swap, now close to agreement, would allow GrandMet to withdraw entirely from brewing in the United Kingdom. Its Truman, Watney, Ushers, Websters and Ruddles breweries would go to Elders, the Foster's lager company, in return for 5,000 public houses controlled by Elders' Courage arm.

This huge public house network, with an asset value estimated at about £1.5 billion, would roughly double the number of public house GrandMet controls, at the same time providing a solution acceptable to the British regulatory authorities.

The Monopolies and Mergers Commission report on the beer industry last year set a limit of 2,000 on the number of tied houses a single brewer could hold, signalling a restructuring of the industry.

Despite the advanced state of the asset-swap negotiations, it is believed that a number of key issues remain unresolved. With more than £1 billion of debt attached to the Courage public houses, some way would be needed to meet the 5 billion target for 1990-91.

As Nigel Lawson indicated last June, the incentive to people to contract out of the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme and take out personal pensions has been more successful than expected, reducing the revenue from national insurance contributions. Some of the reduction has been offset by higher-than-forecast earnings growth, but there is still an adverse effect on the PSDR of about £1 billion. As the cut-off date for rebates of NICs to people taking out personal pensions was April 6, 1989, this will not be a factor next year.

How these factors will net out is difficult to tell. An attractive option might be to stick to the £10 billion figure in last year's medium-term financial strategy. If the Chancellor wants to provide support for a firm monetary policy, and to push interest rates down sooner rather than later, there is clearly a case for breaking with tradition and planning for a surplus which is larger than the expected result for the current year. Compared with the £14 billion figure for 1988, he will still be getting closer to a balanced Budget.

ECONOMIC VIEW

Major juggling act on Budget's fiscal sums

Local authorities also take some responsibility for the shrinking surplus.

New controls on capital spending come in from April and the authorities appear in time-honoured fashion to have been anticipating the event by spending up to, and beyond, the limit before the shutters come down. The new systems, not only for capital spending but also for current, make the outlook highly uncertain but one can say over-spending is unlikely to occur for the same reasons as it has this year.

All this means that the "base case" for next year's surplus should be well above the result for the current year – perhaps by £3 billion, other things being equal. In assessing the tightness of the Chancellor's fiscal stance, markets will have to take this into account.

On the other hand the size of the surplus will be affected both by the slowdown in the economy and by the rate of inflation. On balance this is likely to mean a lower surplus next year as spending slows further, profits decline and social security payments rise.

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Budd v Walters on ERM

The key argument advanced by Sir Alan Walters and others against British membership of the exchange rate mechanism of the European Monetary System has been that to keep the pound in its appointed range against the mark, British interest rates might have to fall to a dangerously low level.

If holders of sterling were guaranteed a fixed exchange rate against the mark, everyone would pile into sterling to enjoy the higher interest rates available on sterling paper. The Government would be forced to cut rates, which would take off the counter-inflationary brakes and start a new boom rolling.

While accepting the argument in principle, Alan Budd, in the latest edition of *Barclays Review*, suggests that in practice the risk is not great – or will not be by the middle of next year once inflation has fallen closer to German levels. By then the inflation differential on manufactured goods,

which Professor Budd takes as a proxy of traded goods, could have fallen from its present 2 per cent to something close to zero.

An interest rate differential will still be needed to compensate for the continuing difference in the underlying rates of inflation given that Britain will still be close to the bottom of its business cycle while the German economy is likely to continue growing rapidly.

Professor Budd suggests that markets might require a premium on British assets similar to the present Italian differential of 4.5 percentage points over German rates.

By the middle of next year the difference between British and German interest rates may have narrowed from its present 7 percentage points to around that level. On that basis the threat to monetary policy would not be great.

Rodney Lord

Economics Editor

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Airship and BAe in joint Saudi venture

By A Correspondent

A joint venture to build airships in Saudi Arabia is being set up by Airship Industries and British Aerospace (BAe).

It is part of an offset programme, designed to bring business and technology to Saudi Arabia equal to the value of BAe's Tornado sale.

The airship factory would provide Airship Industries with badly-needed orders at a time when it is starved of funds because of the beleaguered position of its main shareholder, Mr Alan Bond.

Mr Bond is trying to dispose of his 47 per cent stake, and is in negotiations with Mr Julian Bencher, a property businessman, Nicoll, the US financial services company, and one of her party, Admiral Ned Hogan, the chief executive, said Mr Bond's stake is in the form of debt. The buyer would be expected to convert his purchase to equity to "unscramble" the company's finances.

Airship Industries is on the verge of success on several fronts, but still needs a breakthrough to put it on a firm financial basis, he said.

A joint venture with Westinghouse of the US to build airborne early warning radar blimps is continuing, and the US Drug Enforcement Administration is interested in buying smaller airships for clamping down on the Caribbean drug trade.

NatWest could tumble to £488m

In a week when three of the big four clearing banks report final results, all will be heavily influenced by provisions for the debts of less developed countries (LDCs). Lord Alexander of Weeton, the chairman of National Westminster Bank, will lead the way tomorrow and provide the first clues of what can be expected.

NatWest's profit performance will not be wonderful but the dividend increase should be healthy and the balance sheet relatively untroubled by the strain of eliminating the LDC problem.

The bank has made a determined effort to sell a lot of its lower-quality LDC debt and gross LDC exposure is believed to have been cut during 1989 from £2.8 billion to below £2 billion. Underlying profits are expected to have been flat, if not slightly reduced. This is mainly due to higher non-LDC provisions and difficult conditions in Britain.

Barclays de Zoete Wedd, the broker, is looking for taxable profits of £438 million, against £1.4 billion last time, although this is at the top end of market forecasts which range from £410 million to £490 million.

FI Group is expected to show continued growth at the half-way stage, despite a competitive footwear market, with a better performance than the

industry as a whole. UBS-Phillips & Drew has pencilled in £4.2 million, compared with £3.2 million, and is looking for £3.3 million for the full year.

Barclays Amour Trust, Ashurst Group, Fife Group, Throgmorton Dual Trust,

Finsbury Camille Investments, Reliant Group, Temple Bar Investment Trust.

TOMORROW

Cityvision, the USM video rental chain, is the sector leader and, with about 12 per cent of the market, is halfway to its target of 25 per cent.

Analysts are looking for pre-tax profits to reach \$11 million for the year (£5.4 million).

P&P, Professor Roland Smith's computer dealer and distributor, is expected to report final taxable profits of £10.5 million, compared with £7.5 million, according to Hoare Govett, P&P's broker.

Interline Fletcher Challenge, Glasgow Income Trust, Pico Holdings, Plastic Camper International, Cityvision, Reliant Group, Sainsbury, Owners Abroad Group, P&P, Proprietary Co of London, Scottish Eastem Investment Trust.

WEDNESDAY

Full-year replacement cost net income is expected to reach £3.6 billion at Shell Transport and Trading, compared with £3.16 billion last time, according to BZW. This figure excludes stock profits estimated at £340 million.

The figures will be boosted by the sharp increase in oil



Rise to £1.5 billion predicted: Sir Denys Henderson of ICI

prices and further strong demand for gas in the US and north-west Europe, where the winter was colder than in Britain. However, the refining operations have seen a temporary squeeze and slower demand for commodity chemicals has led to lower margins.

The prolonged industrial dispute in support of a wage claim will have held back profits at Yorkshire Chemi-

cal, the dyestuffs and specialist chemicals group. The main dyestuffs business should have seen good volume growth, with 90 per cent of the company's sales overseas, especially to the Far East and continental Europe where textile industries are still relatively strong. Kleinwort Benson expects pre-tax profits to rise from £8.5 million to £9.4 million.

Midland Montagu's profits are expected to slump from £173 million to below £52 million.

burger Brooks, New Zealand Investment Trust, Finlays, Amuline Holdings, Cadwell Trust, Provident Financial Group, Second Market Investment Co, Shelf Transport and Trading, Trentham, Yorkshire Chemicals.

THURSDAY

A strong performance from pharmaceuticals and agrochemicals should help Imperial Chemical Industries, Britain's biggest chemicals company which is chaired by Sir Denys Henderson, to show an advance in full-year profits despite the effects of weaker economies in Britain and America.

Bulk chemicals should have held up well, but ICI will have had a rougher ride on the consumer side, with products such as Dulux paint feeling the squeeze as a result of the drop in demand from the housing sector, with margins squeezed in a competitive market.

Mr Richard Henderson at Nomura Research is looking for pre-tax profits of £1.5 billion, against £1.47 billion, with market forecasts ranging from £1.48 billion to £1.51 billion.

Midland Bank, chaired by Sir Kit McMahon, has not yet announced whether it will follow NatWest and Lloyds with 70 to 85 per cent LDC provisioning.

Midland Montagu's profits are expected to slump from £173 million to below £52 million.

million, although domestic banking is expected to rise by more than 20 per cent.

BZW has pencilled in a final pre-tax loss of £506 million, compared with pre-tax profits of £693 million. Analysts' final forecasts vary, with anticipated losses ranging from £240 million to £1.17 billion.

Interline Scottish Investment Trust, Finlays EFT Group, English & Overseas Chemicals Group, Lancashire Chemicals, Lancashire & London Investment Trust, Midland Bank.

FRIDAY

Lloyds Bank is thought to have the greatest percentage exposure to leveraged buyouts and property, especially in Docklands. BZW is going for pre-tax losses of £557 million, analysts' forecasts of losses range from £557 million to £693 million.

Profits are expected to fall at Lloyds Abbey Life, after the higher level of interest rates, which are likely to lead to a fall in profits at Lloyds Bowmaker, County NatWest WoodMac expects final pre-tax profits to slide from £303 million to £265 million.

Interline Atlantic Group, Courtier Financials PCL (amended), Minerals Oils and Resources Shares Fund, SWP Group, Finlays, Lloyds Abbey Life, Lloyds Bank, Rankin Inc.

Philip Pangalos

US NOTEBOOK

Liquidation sale as bears take command

The contrast between the "income statement" and the "balance sheet" of the US economic and financial system is becoming more marked. There is great complacency — as indicated by the relative calm in global stock markets — that the degeneration of the balance sheet is not going to affect the income statement.

Yet last month, US manufacturing production fell back to a level unchanged from that of a year previously. (In June 1989, manufacturing production was more than 4 per cent above the 1988 average.) Perhaps more significantly, imports in December tumbled 5.9 per cent despite a record volume of oil imports.

The indicators tell us something we already know — the

US industrial sector is in a contraction.

In the background, a decline in confidence in the US bond market has occurred, taking opinion to a point where the bears are in command.

We had a vivid example of their dominance on Friday when industrial production for January was revealed to have fallen more than expected and December's big fall in imports became known.

Bonds fell slightly on this news, which at other times would have been a solid bullish signal.

Liquidation of assets is a powerful theme in America today. Property assets are being liquidated at speed; so are junk bond assets and durable goods. Severe restrictions are putting a crimp on every

bank lending — banks either

may not or will not, lend for highly leveraged transactions (HLTs), nor for property, nor for many corporate purposes, fearing the over-leveraged condition of much of corporate America.

Everyone, it seems, is trying to sell things to raise cash: the Bank of New England is selling units; Campco is selling shops, so is Hooker; Chrysler is selling Gulfstream; Drexel is selling out; thrills are selling off their junk; the government is trying to sell property worth \$100 billion to \$200 billion; Comstock Partners, the great promoters of the virtue of Treasury Bonds, are selling half their bond holdings; and the Big Three car companies are holding fire sales on every corner of every

Main Street in America. It is called a liquidation sale. Such sales are preceded by a problem called "a dose of the shorts."

The growing presence of liquidation sales tells us that many individuals and corporations in America have had a bad case of the shorts. This also mirrors the liquidation of bonds in Germany and Japan, where something of a catastrophe has occurred.

In late 1989, as the tide of optimism about Germany gathered momentum, some thought the German bond market would be a good idea. This has not worked out. In 1990, the price of German bonds in marks has fallen rapidly, while the dollar has failed to depreciate badly.

Since mid-1989, Japanese

bond prices have fallen about 13 per cent — a collapse that would have caused a sensation in America. The extreme weakness of non-dollar bond prices has cast a dark shadow over the US bond market. The put-to-call ratio in US Treasury bonds has rocketed from its 1989 low of 0.7 to its recent peak of 1.05. Everyone, it seems, is trying to put on puts over T-bonds — the bears are in command.

Indeed, the extreme weakness of bonds worldwide must cast doubt over the durability of business confidence and the value of assets. The theme song of 1990 has become: "We have to sell some assets to raise some cash."

Maxwell Newton
New York

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Classification	Company	Price	Chg	Gross	Dr	Yd	P/E	Classification	Company	Price	Chg	Gross	Dr	Yd	P/E	Classification	Company	Price	Chg	Gross	Dr	Yd	P/E
25,480,000	ABG Services	22	+2	2.1	55	52		15,000	Gibbs Mew	200	+1	63	29	...		15,000	Masterfile	175	-1	87	33	149	
12,200,000	ABG Services	212	+1	2.1	55	52		21,100	Great Western	200	+1	67	33	125		21,100	SW Resources	120	-1	103	11	131	
5,750,000	Aberdeen Soft	110	+1	2.1	55	52		11,000	Green (Electra)	200	+1	63	34	87		11,000	Horizon	120	-1	100	11	125	
15,500,000	Acorn Group	25	+1	2.1	55	52		12,000	Hindustan India	200	+1	63	34	87		12,000	Orion Tech	120	-1	100	11	125	
12,000,000	Acorn Group	25	+1	2.1	55	52		12,000	Hindustan India	200	+1	63	34	87		12,000	Orion Tech	120	-1	100	11	125	
12,000,000	Acorn Group	25	+1	2.1	55	52		12,000	Hindustan India	200	+1	63	34	87		12,000	Orion Tech	120	-1	100	11	125	
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12,000,000	Acorn Group	25	+1	2.1	55	52		12,000	Hindustan India	200	+1	63	34	87		12,000	Orion Tech	120	-1	100			

Untangling Europe's crossed wires

A report to be published next month will be compulsory reading for Europe's snowballing mobile communications industry. Drawn up by the Mobile Strategic Review of the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI), the report tries to impose a set of priorities on a sector in which development has been dramatic and largely unstructured.

Over the past two decades, mobile communication has risen from obscurity to a state which John Carrington, managing director of Mercury Personal Communications, says approaches that of consumer electronics.

The technology is viewed by experts such as Olof Lundberg, director general of International Maritime Satellite (INMARSAT), as the critical element in the achievement of personal communications.

In the age of "one man, one phone", terminals will be available at a fraction of the price of today's mobile hardware and will offer inexpensive, high-quality connections.

With a 10.7 oz offering, Motorola holds the record for the smallest cellular terminal.

Europe leads the world in mobile communication, yet a lack of uniformity is threatening this position, John Williamson reports

The company's European corporate vice-president, Don Burns, is predicting that the cost of its Personal Communications Network (PCN) successor will drop below £100 by the late-1990s.

By that time, telephone numbers will be allotted to individuals. A number will be portable throughout the world and will last an owner's lifetime.

Unfortunately, "one man, one phone" is not yet the same as "one world, one phone". As the benefits of communication on demand have become more apparent, mobile products and services have multiplied at a bewildering rate.

People on the move can stay in touch using a variety of public and private paging systems, analogue cellular phones, domestic cordless telephones, cordless payphone terminals and several types of private mobile radio network.

The establishment of the ETSI special review body in 1989 was a reflection of concern at regional level and

In the 1990s, the choice will include digital cellular and cordless telephones, on-site short-range radio, PCNs, broadband communicators and satellite-based paging and messaging services. Satellites have already been used to provide airline passengers with telephone services, and both INMARSAT and the European Telecommunications Satellite organization are planning long-range systems for lorries and other vehicles.

The danger is that this proliferation of incompatible mobile technologies and services will increase pressure on finite research and development resources, make greater demands on the already overcrowded airwaves and, ultimately, dilute potential market volumes.

As well as pioneering research into, and commercial exploitation of, different types of mobile communication,



Ted Townsend, principal keeper of the Needles lighthouse, tests the world's smallest phone

an acknowledgement that Europe has experienced considerable divergence and incompatibility within service categories. There are five main types of cellular systems in operation and, even different implementations of the same systems in different locations; the United States and Japan have a system each.

European telecommunications' regulatory regimes vary from location to location. The UK has licensed two national operators of cellular telephone service, three of PCNs and four of Telepoint; the country also boasts numerous radio paging and trunked mobile radio operators. In Spain, all

mobile services are furnished by the government-owned telephone company.

Behind this sort of disparity are vastly different aspirations for mobile communications. Rodney Stewart, a consultant, says that some countries see the mobile sector as a "sop" to the prevailing notion of telecommunications deregulation. John Carrington agrees. "Mobile communications is seen in Europe and elsewhere as a means of having competition without attacking the postal and telecommunications providers."

By contrast, the UK has been motivated by both the desire to expand local market volumes in cellular telephones, paging, Band III mobile radio and Telepoint, and to provide comprehensive competition to British Telecom.

The nomination last year of three PCN licences was intended, in part, to beef up the challenge to BT's continuing supremacy in domestic telephone services.

The UK's attitude to mobile communications in the 1980s has not always endeared it to other Europeans and has led to charges that Britain's real aim is to hijack regional mobile efforts.

To avoid further controversy, the UK has handed over the task of determining its PCN standard to the ETSI. "It was prudent to let them have a view on it," says Burns, of Motorola, a partner company in the Mercury PCN consortium.

Transforming the region's patchwork of mobile services into a homogenous whole is one of the aims of the architects of the post-1992 single European telecommunications market.

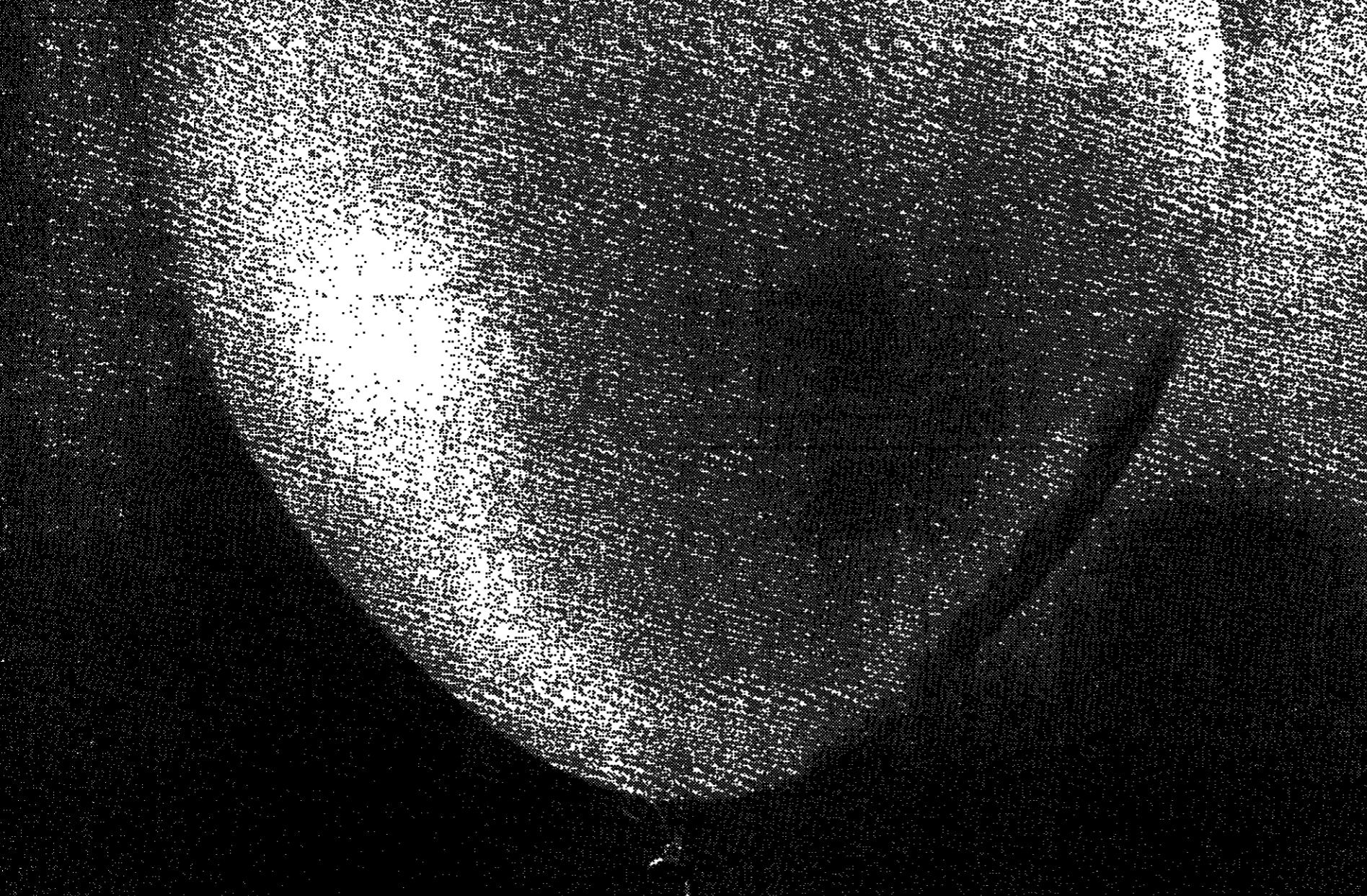
This path will not be without obstacles. It is also unlikely that the range of different and incompatible mobile services will decline greatly this decade, despite inevitable casualties.

But integration and convergence between different mobile types, and between mobile and wireline networks, will take place in the next few years. This is expected to result in a universal mobile telecommunications service (UMTS) early next century.

With the help of regional research projects and the strategic initiatives of ETSI, Europe's chances of beating the world look good.

• The author is international editor, *Telephony* (Chicago).

CC Computers and Communications



Chris Gent, of Vodafone: investment has reduced complaints

Mobile services struggle to meet user demand

Congestion and disconnection are still the twin bane of the mobile user

Mobile phones are used by almost a million people in the UK — a figure higher than the most optimistic predictions. But with the rise in the number of users has come a corresponding increase in complaints about service quality.

So much so that Sir Bryan Carsberg, director general of Telecommunications, has begun an investigation into the quality of service of the two cellular radio networks run by Celinet and Racial Vodafone.

The problems appear considerable. A survey by the Telecommunications Users' Association (TUA) in October 1988 showed that about 70 per cent of members who used the cellular network were unhappy with the service. The situation has improved, but not enough, according to Vivienne Peters, TUA chief executive.

"Members still complain that service is not available as advertised," she says.

Typically, cellular users say they are unable to operate car and hand portable telephones because of congestion, or are cut off during conversations. Being cut off is particularly annoying because it means extra cost for less than satisfactory service, she says.

"A call which should have lasted three minutes, but was cut off twice and dialled could add 33 percent to the price."

The industry admits there have been problems. Chris Gent, managing director of Racial Vodafone, says the cellular service has been a victim of its own success. In November 1988, the cellular systems ran out of capacity. "That meant we dropped behind the number of new subscribers by 8 to 10 per cent," he says. "Now we have brought capacity ahead of subscriber demand."

Except for problems at the busiest times and at particular locations, more than 90 per cent of calls are now set up first time and are held until

completion, Gent says. "We have invested more than £140 million in the network this year, which brings our overall investment to over £400 million. What people do not realize is that though we are a big and profitable company, we plough the profits back into the network; we pay out a minimum dividend."

Responding to Peters's criticism, Gent says that Vodafone handles "well over 20 million calls a week. That's more than Mercury — and we drop only 5 per cent."

He says there need not be any running-up of bills. "If a call drops after three minutes, the only penalty is the cost of the first minute. This can be got back by calling the operator, who will reconnect the call and not charge for the first minute."

Colin Aitken, distribution director for Motorola, a car-phone manufacturer, says complaints about cellular service quality are exaggerated.

"We have to remember that carphones are radio telephones — you cannot compare them to ordinary telephones."

Ian White, managing editor of *Mobile Business*, a new monthly publication on mobile communications, says: "There is a lot of ignorance around when it comes to cellular."

A lot of the problems are caused by bad installation, particularly of aerials. "For cosmetic reasons, people often want their aerials at disadvantageous places. Then they blame the operator for poor service."

Chris Gent, managing director of Racial Vodafone, says the cellular service has been a victim of its own success.

"That meant we dropped behind the number of new subscribers by 8 to 10 per cent," he says. "Now we have brought capacity ahead of subscriber demand."

Except for problems at the busiest times and at particular locations, more than 90 per cent of calls are now set up first time and are held until

completion, Gent says.

"People complain about the quality, but they can't do without the service," she says.

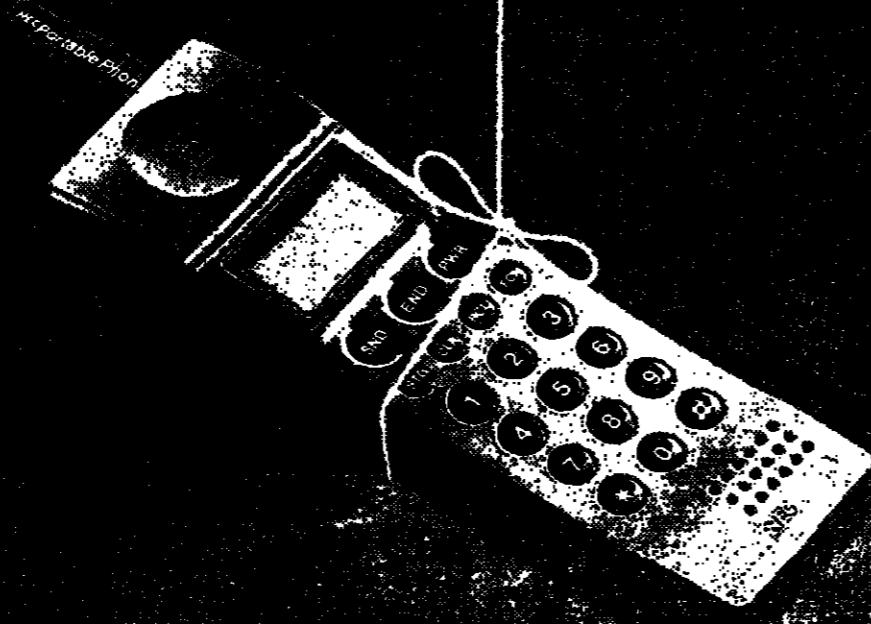
Peter Purton

NETWORK CONGESTION				
4-week period beginning	CELLNET Working day*	VOICAFONE Working day	VOICAFONE Working day*	VOICAFONE Working day*
July 31, 1989	3.7%	6.0%	3.4%	6.0%
Aug 28, 1989	5.2%	7.9%	4.2%	8.0%
Sep 25, 1989	7.3%	12.6%	4.7%	10.0%

*Sun-Sun ** Normally mid to late afternoon

Source: Ofcom

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NEC

مكتبة الأصل

Base system is a cheaper option

Agreement on a common standard has offered the Telepoint cordless telephone system the advantage of consistency in a field plagued by diversity and misunderstanding

Telepoint is a revolutionary low-cost system which is expected to bring mobile communications within the reach of a large part of the population. Developed in Britain, it is based on second-generation, cordless telephone CT2 technology.

Subscribers will be able to make calls using lightweight pocket handsets within 200yds of a Telepoint base station. Base stations will be installed in shopping centres, railway stations and other areas where people make phone calls.

Users will need a Telepoint handset, which will cost about £200, and a charger or batteries, the cost of which will vary according to the handset chosen. They will need to subscribe to one of the services, involving a one-off enrolment fee of about £25 and a similar quarterly subscription charge. Call charges are slightly higher than those made through call boxes.

However, according to John Copsey, director of marketing at Mercury Calipoint, "By the setting-up of a flat-rate call structure for local and long distance calls, Mercury Calipoint is effectively cutting the phone bills of the business user. Though our rates are

slightly more expensive than call-box rates so far as local calls are concerned, the savings made on long-distance calls more than compensate for this - resulting in a cheaper, and much more convenient, alternative to using public payphones for business purposes.

When the four licences were awarded in January 1989, there were two compatible rival Telepoint technologies. It was made clear that all operators should support a common air interface (CAI) standard by the end of 1990 to ensure customers had the widest choice of equipment and that users of one network could use the networks of other companies.

Though the CAI standard has been agreed to by all interested parties, three of the licensees, Mercury Calipoint, Phonepoint and Zonephone, launched services without waiting for CAI equipment to become available. Their aim was to capture a larger slice of the emerging market.

Phonepoint's managing director, Barry Moxley, is confident the market will lift off soon. "The interest generated by the launch of Phonepoint has been excellent. Many thousands of potential customers have asked for information on the service," he says.

Research shows that the main reason for the limited sales is a perceived lack of choice.

"This will give all CAI-compatible handset users the chance to subscribe to an established network in London and on feeder routes and still maintain an expanding service to existing customers using proprietary protocol handsets."

Peter Wright, managing director of BYPS Communications, which is deferring its launch until CAI equipment becomes available, says: "Other networks have said that they will develop their networks to support the CAI standard, as well as their own proprietary systems.

"We believe that these networks, by having a dual standard operating at the same

time, will run the risk of confusing the consumer.

"Given the Department of Trade and Industry's backing of the standard here, we believe that, ultimately, the CAI standard will be the standard that consumers will want to use and that it will prevail in the UK market."

But when will CAI products be available? Though no date has been set, BYPS says that

the service will be launched in late spring. The handsets, base stations and network equipment for this are being supplied by GPT in a deal worth £30 million.

Tim Lowry, director of GPT Mobile Systems, says production of the CAI equipment will begin in March so it appears there will not be much, if any, slippage.

Orbitel is well advanced with its development of CAI products. Richard Mendelsohn, the company's marketing director, says his company will stage the first public demonstration of its Contact handset on March 1. Orbitel is planning national field trials this spring to launch products in the autumn, he says.

At the same time as Telepoint services are beginning to roll out across the UK, other countries are taking a growing interest in the technology. Guernsey Telecom has signed an exclusive agreement with BYPS, and Helsinki Telephone is evaluating bids, one of which was submitted by GPT, for a commercial Telepoint system which will operate through 1,000 base stations.

GPT has recently won an order worth £1.3 million from OY Heltel AB for 5,000 handsets and single-line base stations for the domestic and business markets. These CAI handsets can be used as cordless telephones or with a Telepoint.

UK manufacturers and operators have signed an IPR (intellectual property rights) agreement. They will license companies in countries where the CAI Telepoint standard has been adopted to manufacture CAI equipment.

The CAI specification has been submitted to the European Telecommunications Standards Institution (ETSI) and the European PTTs have agreed to sign a memorandum of understanding supporting this as the leading CT2 standard.

The only similar technology in Europe is the Digital European Cordless Telephone system, supported by Sweden's Ericsson. Because this is not at an advanced stage and has not been submitted to ETSI, it appears likely that there will be a single Telepoint standard, and not the large number which dogs most areas of innovation.

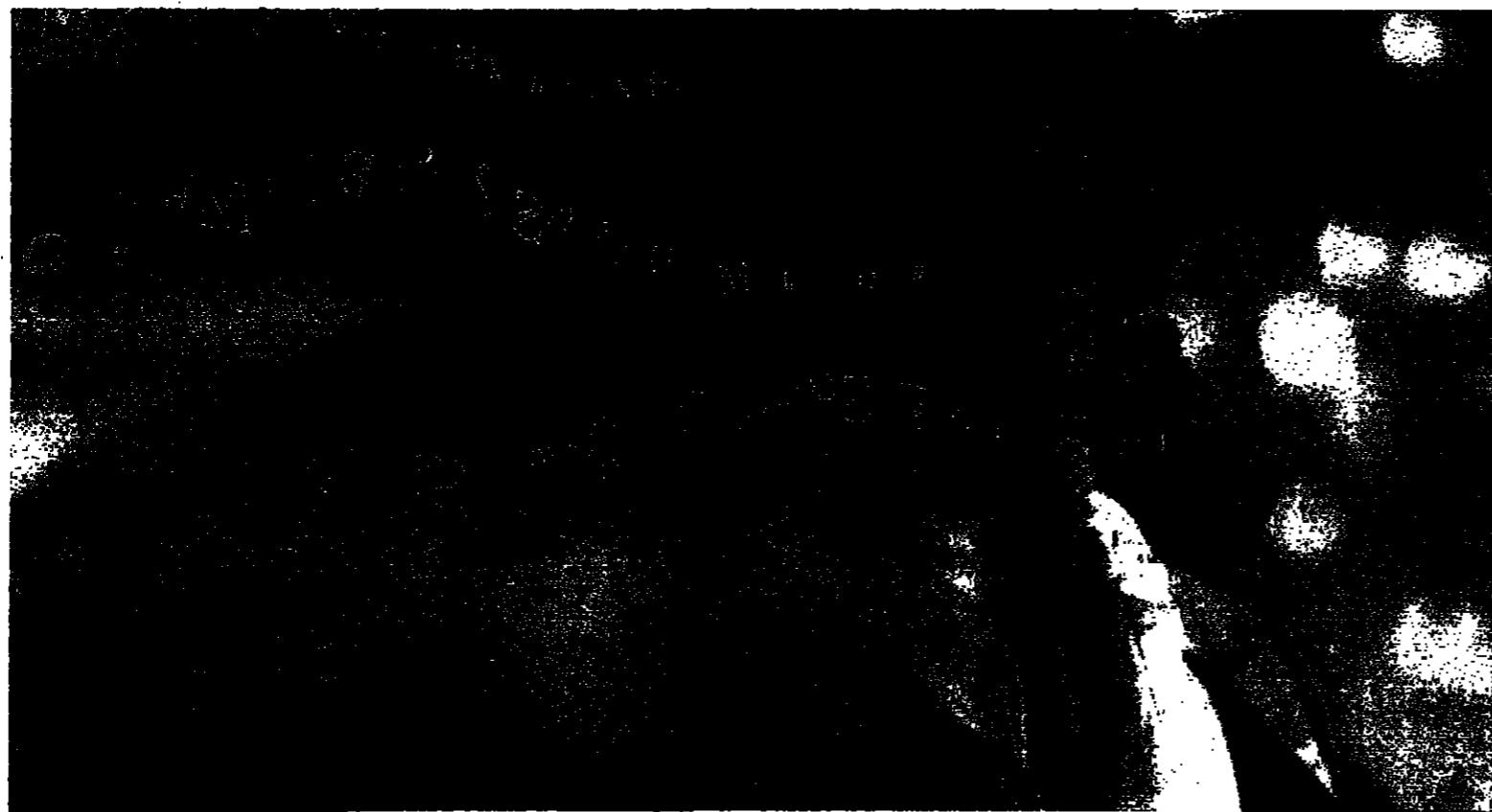
Adrian Morant

'As Telepoint services are starting to cover Britain, other countries are showing a growing interest in the technology of Telepoint'



Tim Lowry, of GPT Mobile Systems, with his company's handset: the UK has led the way in introduction of Telepoint systems

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PHILIPS

The bargain phone offers that could make you pay later

Incentives bring in the business, but some retailers are wary of the bonuses that make them possible

If you like a bargain, Britain's cellular business is for you. Free car phones are being given as incentives on products ranging from hi-fi equipment and suits, to jewellery and air tickets. Even a mobile phone dealer is likely to offer you a free car phone rather than risk losing your business.

The more expensive, but increasingly popular, hand portable models are also being offered in deals.

A survey in the Bristol area showed a low price of £325 for a hand-portable cellular phone - more than £1,000 less than its nearest European rival and even lower than rival products in the United States, where business equipment prices are usually much lower.

British dealers can offer low prices because of a subsidies system that begins with the network operators, Cellnet and Racal Vodafone, and filters through to users.

Edna Hardiman, divisional manager of communications at BIS Mackintosh, a UK-based management consultancy, says: "To encourage new subscribers, network operators pay bonuses to air-time resellers. Air-time resellers pay bonuses to equipment dealers. These bonuses are used to subsidize equipment prices."

With bonuses to equipment dealers at £400 or more, dealers buying in car phones at £300 can give them away and still make £100.

There are drawbacks, however. User groups, such as the Telecommunications Users' Association, say cellular subscribers have to pay for their "free" equipment with higher standing charges and usage costs, expensive maintenance deals and long minimum contracts for services.

The magazine *What To Buy*

For Business has also expressed concern. Julian Lloyd, its publisher, says: "Cellular is a booming, highly competitive market, where big profits are to be made.

"Unfortunately, as is often the case in development markets, the level of service and customer care is not all it might be."

The industry is worried about its image. The network operators, equipment makers and larger air-time resellers want to see subsidies abolished.

This need is becoming more urgent as equipment prices fall, says Colin Aitken, distribution director for Motorola, the equipment maker and service supplier.

"As margins slip, so do dealers' standards of after-sales service," he says. "The dealer who is making only 30 per cent of £100 cannot afford to provide a great deal of after-sales service."

While user groups are concerned about bad practice by dealers, the industry is noting an increase in such activity by customers, particularly those who get their car phones free as an inducement to buy another product.

Roger Frye, managing director of Talk International, an air-time reseller, and secretary of the Independent Cellular Retailers' Federation, says: "If somebody can walk away with a free phone, will they have thought whether they need it, or whether they will be able to pay the bills?"

"In theory, it makes no difference whether they pay for it or not, but psychologically there is a big difference." Frye wants lower subsidies offered to dealers. His company recently cut its connection commission by £50 and is to announce a further £50 cut soon.

These cuts, which are being implemented by other air-time resellers, will force dealers to raise prices and, Frye says, will probably eliminate the free car phone as an incentive to buy another other products. He adds: "It is hard to argue that it is in subscribers' interests to pay more for equipment, but I think it is true: it makes more sense to have to pay it up-front than to have it hauled out in dribs and drabs."

Peter Purton

CELLULAR TELEPHONE COSTS, 1989

	In-car mobile price £	Hand-held portable price £	Annual subscription £	Annual spending on calls £
Belgium	1900	n/a	274	300
France	1900	3000	612	588
W Germany	1850	2700	480	1320
Netherlands	1250	n/a	300	520
Italy	1420	n/a	924	300
Spain	1500	n/a	550	450
Sweden	650	1650	150	480
Britain	250	630	300	550

Source: MZA, *The European Telecommunications Market 1989*

TOP 10 CELLULAR SCAMS

■ Discounts on equipment prices are often a cover for jacked-up call charges - call units should last one minute and cost a maximum of 33p at peak rate, 25p at cheap rate.

■ Installation should cost £75, regardless of the car model. Check that existing holes are used wherever possible. If new holes are hidden and not laid under places that get a lot of wear.

■ Billing should begin with successful connection. Beware of those who start billing as soon as you press the "send" button.

■ Leases can tie you up for three years or more and make it difficult to change airtime reseller - it may be simpler to buy equipment outright.

■ Half-minute billing is the industry standard - watch out for those charging in one-

minute increments, and make sure the call duration and network units used are both listed on itemized bills.

■ Itemized billing is worth having and any dealer should be able to do it.

■ "Free of charge" announcements such as "The subscriber you have called is busy or lines are busy, please try later" may be charged for by some distributors - so watch out.

■ Direct debits - avoid them.

■ Reconnection charges can be extravagant. A growing bad debt problem has made some dealers quick to cut off subscribers who do not pay promptly - and some dealers may charge up to £300 for reconnection.

■ Maintenance on cellular radios is minimal, but some dealers may try to tie you into expensive service cover plans.

■ Source: *What To Buy For Business*, 11 Kings Road, London SW3 4RF, 01-730 4423.

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EDUCATION

Soft sell for drugs attack

Shock-horror tactics are not the answer to ridding our schools of drug abuse, say two teachers who are operating a wider, more sensitive approach that involves parents

Television pictures and full-colour posters showing needle-marked arms or the alcoholic in total despair have no lasting value, say the teachers responsible for warning Britain's schoolchildren about the danger of drug abuse. A much more measured approach is the hallmark of the new attack on a problem that has so far proved resistant to most of the old techniques.

Charlie Wise and Mike Hoskin are typical of the new breed of teachers who believe that the old shock-horror tactics are no longer sufficient. But can they be sure that their new approach is working?

Hoskin, Gloucestershire's advisory teacher for health and social education, is cautious: "It is difficult to assess. You have to rely on instinct and personal belief. How do you measure something that is new? We are making people aware, teaching them how to resist, how to say no."

"If a child is offered a cigarette, does he or she accept? They know that smoking is bad for health, but also that if they refuse they might lose a friend or be cut off from a group. We help people to make choices. Sometimes they will make the wrong one. That is the risk."

Wise, the county's senior adviser for personal and social education, says: "People will say that if you can't be sure you are preventing the misuse of drugs, you are wasting your time. But we say that past strategies did not work."

"Shock-horror tactics have only a short-term effect. We live in a drug-oriented society and everybody is touched by it. We try to focus on prevention. The alternative is like applying a band-aid to an amputation."

How parents behave is one of the most sensitive issues facing the teacher. Children are greatly influenced by the way their parents behave; how much they smoke or drink, or the number of times they see them using tranquillizers.

Hoskin says: "One of the significant problems is the use of tran-

quillizers by parents, possibly a mother, which might cause problems for a youngster, but we do have to be careful. An insensitive teacher could do harm between pupil and parent, or school and parent. But some adults are ill-informed and undervalue the influence they have on their children."

Hoskin, the former head of the upper school in an 11-18 mixed comprehensive, was originally appointed as drug advisory teacher but has expanded his brief in keeping with revised thinking by the Government. The aim now is to include drugs as part of a general attack on smoking and alcohol aimed at showing how it affects behaviour, and for there to be a closer link between social workers, doctors and the police.

The need for the work was underlined by a report from the schools inspectors earlier this year on drugs education in 10 Liverpool primary schools. The inspectors said that "many children had a 'precoocous familiarity with activities surrounding the use of drugs in their local community'". One head spoke of drugs sold openly from a car outside the school nursery department.

The inspectors also underlined a dilemma for all teachers when they said that schools feared that if they said that drugs education could encourage experimenting.

Hoskin is not impressed by the argument: "There is no evidence that if teachers handle drugs information in a responsible way children are led to misuse them."

Alan Howarth, the Education and Science Minister, responsible for drugs education in schools, is concerned about the loss of "childhood innocence" but convinced of the need for the anti-drug programme. "It is important to help children to have the maturity not to give in to the first person who approaches them."

Wise and Hoskin receive about

£70,000 a year from the Government to deal with 262 primary schools, 43 secondary and 16



special schools. Hoskin says: "The greatest problem is alcohol and smoking. We have to be realistic and say that nearly all the children of 16-plus experience alcohol. There is also a smaller but increasing number of experienced 14-year-olds."

The system operated in Gloucestershire is similar to that used in most of the 104 education authorities in England and Wales. Wise and Hoskin set up courses for teachers who are chosen as suitable candidates by their heads. Any outside speakers are well briefed in advance and courses are followed up. Schools are supported by Lions clubs throughout the county, who have donated around £10,000 to help provide lessons and school-based courses.

It all starts in the primary schools, where the motto is: "Don't sniff, don't touch." Teach-

ers discuss smoking with nine-year-olds, moving on to alcohol in the last year. Work on drugs is left to the second year of secondary school.

Wise says: "We have approached smoking and alcohol education far too late," and he is keen to make another point: "It is important that we have a positive side to our work; that we show the good side of drugs. Many people would not be alive today without drugs."

"Drug education is more than just saying how nasty and horrible they are."

A key part of the programme is to discover exactly what children know with questionnaires aimed at different age groups, and asking about personal experience.

The questionnaire reproduced here was used by a teacher with 25 16-year-olds on the Government's

Youth Training Scheme, who said: "Most of them had difficulty in accepting that caffeine is a drug. All but two of them were wrong about the question on women and alcoholism. Most of them did not know much about cannabis, although quite a few claimed to smoke it regularly."

Most of the boys in the group said they had been involved in glue-sniffing when they were younger but gave the wrong answers to the questions concerning solvent abuse.

Wise says that nothing should be left unfinished: "The thing you fear is that people will hold one-off events and that the youngsters will not be prepared for what they are to be shown or told, or that teachers do not follow up or resolve issues raised. Where you are dealing with people's health or well-being you cannot afford to many false starts."

HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT DRUGS?

Answer True or False

- 1 A regular coffee-drinker (six or seven cups a day) will suffer no ill effects if he or she gives it up.
- 2 If you usually drink five or six cups of coffee a day and you decide to stop completely, you may suffer headaches, sweating, shaking, anxiety, vomiting.
- 3 It is possible to become addicted to over-the-counter pain pills.
- 4 Once people have smoked their first cigarettes, they become hooked.
- 5 More people die as a result of heroin than smoking.
- 6 North American Indians used tobacco to produce "visions".
- 7 Seventy per cent of violent crimes involve alcohol.
- 8 Alcoholics are usually dossers, drunks and down-and-outs.
- 9 Someone who is used to four or five pints of beer every night and then decides to stop drinking could suffer severe fits, headaches, sweating, shaking, anxiety, sleeplessness, vomiting.
- 10 Most alcoholics are men.
- 11 Alcohol is illegal in some countries.
- 12 It is safe to drive when under the influence of cannabis.
- 13 Cannabis is usually injected.

CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Caffeine: 1 False. 2 and 3 True. Coffee contains a drug called caffeine. People who regularly drink coffee will probably become dependent on it, and will therefore suffer withdrawal problems if they stop. Caffeine is contained in Coca-Cola, along with sugar, which is also a dependence-producing substance. Over-the-counter preparations such as Pro-Plus largely consist of caffeine. These tablets are most often taken by people who want to stay awake at night. The same effect can be obtained by drinking lots of strong coffee.

Tobacco: 4 False. People do not become hooked straight away, but every cigarette takes you closer to being hooked, and you probably won't realize when it has happened. 5 False. 6 True. The way a drug works can often be beyond your mood, and what you expect it to do.

Alcohol: 7 True & False. These are common stereotypes but alcoholics are more often ordinary, normal people who have jobs and families. 8 True. These are more common withdrawal symptoms of alcohol dependency. 14 False. However, cannabis is usually smoked with tobacco, so users risk becoming dependent on tobacco. 17 True. Particularly Rastafarians of the West Indies.

Heroin, morphine and opium: 18 False. Opium used to be very common in this country, and could be bought in any chemist's shop. Laudanum, a very common medicine made from opium, was used for all kinds of minor ailments and was often given to babies to keep them quiet when their mothers worked long hours in mills or factories. 19 True. 20 False. Morphine is a very effective pain-killer. 21 False. Heroin is very addictive. It does not matter how it is used. 22 False. All the synthetic substitutes are addictive. 23 False. But there are very uncomfortable withdrawal symptoms, which is why most people carry on using the drug. 24 True. Some South American countries grow a great deal of coca, which is made into cocaine. Some Asian countries grow a lot of opium which is made into heroin.

Glue and solvents: 25 True. Sniffing butane gas can be fatal. 26 False. Sniffing glue is not addictive but sometimes people who have been sniffing glue for a long time cannot think of anything else to do. 27 False. Banning something does not always stop it, and it often causes more problems than it solves, e.g., prohibition in the United States. 28 False. Glue-sniffing is still legal but people could be arrested for disturbing the peace.

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RUGBY UNION: SCOTLAND AND ENGLAND OFFER THE MOUTH-WATERING PROSPECT OF TWO UNBEATEN BRITISH SIDES GOING FOR THE GRAND SLAM ON MARCH 17

The legend of the dragon-slayers

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

England..... 34

Wales..... 6

The sound of fluttering in the rafters of Twickenham on Saturday was not so much that of palpitating Welsh hearts, more of chickens arriving home to roost: for Wales, that the legend of English fallibility will no longer serve, for England, that the days of talking a good team are done and that what you get is what you see.

Never has there been a more emphatic English victory — by three goals, a try and two penalty goals to a goal — since modern scoring values were adopted. The 28-point margin surpassed England's previous best against Wales (25-0 at Blackheath in 1896) and establishes the mouth-watering prospect of two unbeaten British teams going for the grand slam at Murrayfield on March 17 if Scotland can negotiate their way past Wales at Cardiff on March 3.

In the face of the statistics, it may appear carpings, but England's overwhelmingly successful British Gas Challenge was not, in my view, such a complete performance as their win over France in Paris. Apart from the fact that that was achieved away from home, at the Parc des Princes, they took nearly every scoring chance on offer. Against the Welsh they made the openings but could not complete them, largely because of mishandling or misjudgment in midfield, where Guscoff's decision-making was awry.

But England, and their euphoric supporters, must be allowed to revel in their triumph awhile after a game besmirched by no controversy or foul play and well handled on his first international appearance by David Leslie. The gentleman in the crowd behind the press box, who had already exceeded the permitted decibel count, could hardly contain himself: "30 points against the Welsh — I've waited years for this."

If the periphery was so elated, what must those at the core have felt? "To do that against Wales makes us all very happy," Geoff Cooke, the team manager, said. That may go down as one of the more

memorable sporting understatements.

Cooke, quite rightly, would not be drawn on outstanding individuals but praised instead the unity of the team performance. Even so, I doubt if Peter Winterbottom has played better in an international career going back to 1982: he gave the complete response to those who would prefer Robinson or Rees in the side, not only with his dynamic destruction of Welsh ball-carriers but his constructive use of the ball in the hand.

Simon Hodgkinson, meanwhile, was averaging nearly 15 points a match with his boot. He missed only twice on Saturday, in a tricky wind swirling in from the southwest, which was behind England in the first half, and it is difficult to underestimate the effect such accuracy can have on his team.

His first penalty in particular, with the match a minute old, was magnificently struck from 42 metres and the knowledge that tries can be established so consistently, even from the touchline, has a correspondingly depressing effect upon opponents.

The pattern of the game followed closely that of a fortnight ago against France. It was laid down by an English pack which hunted as a unit, arriving at the breakdown far more quickly than the Welsh and driving in numbers which invariably won them the feed at any subsequent scrum. The power generated as the Welsh forwards were remorselessly dismembered made a nonsense of comparisons between Hill and Robert Jones because the one was in an armchair, the other living off scraps literally flung at him by his forwards.

Jones, asked why he had not repeated the tormenting kicks which distinguished the corresponding fixture last year, heaved a heavy sigh. "No time," he said. Even though Wales won a fair share of lineout ball, much of it was under such insistent pressure that Jones could only pass it on in the hope that his outsides could find more room.

In other circumstances, the Welsh back line, as an attacking unit, might have looked impressive, and Evans deserves happier days at stand-



No brakes on Carling: the captain's speed and strength taking him past one of four attempted tackles and into the corner

off half, but their defensive shortcomings were far more evident on the day, notably on the right, where Titley was embarrassed both by Carling and Underwood.

Wales tried to break up the English pattern with quick ins and tapped penalties but with only limited hope of diverting England's ambitions. Just as in Paris, they started with two penalties and a try which originated with Andrew doubling back to the blind side.

This time it was Carling on his elbow and the captain's speed and strength took him in

past four attempted tackles into the corner. If that dismayed Wales, it was no more than the effect the English scrum had already had. Hodgkinson's second penalty was the direct consequence of a concerted English shove which pushed Wales off their own ball — the first of two strikes against the blind side for Moore and his colleagues.

From that point, only 10 minutes into the game, there was no place to which Wales could retreat and regroup. By half-time, they were trailing by 16 points, Underwood having scored his first try. His second

was a more sumptuous affair by far since it was run in from nearly 80 metres after Mark Jones lost possession in midfield and Underwood stepped out of Robert Jones's tackle before scudding to the posts.

Davies, with Allen the most deserving of the Welsh forwards, forced his 18 stones over the English line but England scored direct from the restart. Winterbottom provided the telling pass for Underwood to break the defence on the blind side and Moore gave the pass to Hill, who twisted in at the corner for his first international try.

SCORERS: England: Tries: Underwood (2), Carling, Hill (Conversion); Hodgkinson (4). Wales: Try: Davies (Conversion); Thorburn.

ENGLAND: S D Hodgkinson (Nottingham); R J Hill (Bath); P A G Rees (Cardiff); R C Moore (Nottingham); R (Wales); B J Hill (Bath); P A G Rees (Cardiff); R C Moore (Nottingham); J A Probyn (Moseley); M J Sturman (Harrowgate); P J Ackford (Harlequins); P J Winterbottom (Harlequins); M C Teague (Gateshead).

WALES: P J Thorburn (Wales); M H Titley (Cardiff); B G Ring (Cardiff); M H Hill (Cardiff); A Easby (Swansea); D W Evans (Cardiff); R N Jones (Swansea); captain; M G Evans (Cardiff); P J Thorburn (Cardiff); D Delaney (Llanelli); P T Davies (Llanelli); A G Allen (Newbridge); G O Llewellyn (Wales); R G Collins (Cardiff); M A Jones (Wales). **Referee:** D Leslie (Scotland).

Beheaded French humbly don the kilt as a disguise

By Bryan Stiles

Scotland..... 21

France..... 0

Who can blame the Scots for feeling pleased with themselves? Only the worst Welsh side in living memory stands in the way of a grand slam confrontation with England at Murrayfield in a month's time. They swept to a comprehensive win over the French on Saturday, thanks mainly to France's ability to think themselves under the guillotine.

It must disturb them a little, though, that it was not until Carminati, the French flanker, was sent off for stamping nine minutes into the second half that they were able to exert the pressure that ensured victory by two goals and three penalties to nil. Until then, with Scotland leading by just three points, the game could have gone either way.

With France reduced to 14 men, the Scots had the confidence to strike out wide for the line, knowing that, with a defender missing, the French rear-guard could be stretched and breached more easily.

The Scots must also have been grateful that Blanco, the once-great French full back, had a nightmare of a match, fumbling the ball, taking the wrong options and often completely confusing his colleagues.

With France building for the World Cup next year, Blanco may have played in his last international match, but the politics of French rugby allow for so much bizarre thinking that he could even be promoted to the captaincy for their next game, a meeting with those other all-rounder, the Irish, in Paris a week next Saturday.

Certainly, Rodriguez did not seem able to exert much influence as captain on a French side that had shown 10 changes after the defeat by England in Paris. He rarely inspired his men with those destructive charges that were once a feature of the day, but he did not initiate the shortpassing game that have upset many an opponent.

Much of the credit must go to the fine tackling by the Scottish back row and Cronin.

The Scottish pack matched the French in the set-pieces, rucks and mauls, with the lineout work of Cronin and Gray being much more profitable than it had been in the scrambled win over the Irish a fortnight earlier. Carminati, the Scottish coach, was to acknowledge later as crucial to the outcome of the match. If France had scored then, the complexion of the game could have changed.

As it was, the first try went to Calder, the former Scotland captain, who, together with Linnean, chased after the ball following a fine run and kick ahead by Tukalo. Linnean failed to ground the ball but Calder must have misheard.

Chalmers converted, to add to the penalty goal he had kicked a few minutes earlier to punish the stamping by Carminati.

Tukalo revelled in the extra space he was being given on the left-hand side and extricated himself from two tackles to score in the corner in the 25th minute. Chalmers converted from the touchline, then rounded off the scoring 10 minutes from the end with a penalty goal from in front of the posts as the French forwards transgressed again.

The French trainer must have reflected on the evidence that this was not going to be the day to be recognized as a Frenchman at the stadium. He donned a kilt as a "disguise" when he had to dash on to the field to treat a French player.

It was just about as effective as the excuse Carminati offered when asked why he had been sent off. With a straight face, he explained he was just trying to shake off someone who was pulling his leg. "Pull the one, mon ami," as one Scottish player said.

SCORERS: Scotland: Tries: Calder, Tukalo, Chalmers; Try-scorers (2); Penalties: Chalmers (2). France: Try: Carminati; A G Stanger (Hawick); S Hastings (Watsonians); S R P Linnes (Brougham); S J Tait (Glasgow); C G Ainsworth (Harrowgate); G Ainsworth (Harrowgate); P J Ackford (Harlequins); P J Winterbottom (Harlequins); M C Teague (Gateshead). **Referee:** D B S Leslie (London Scottish). **Scorers:** Scotland: S B McLean (Bath); S Hastings (Watsonians); S R P Linnes (Brougham); S J Tait (Glasgow); C G Ainsworth (Harrowgate); G Ainsworth (Harrowgate); P J Ackford (Harlequins); P J Winterbottom (Harlequins); M C Teague (Gateshead); P Calder (Stewart's Melville F.P.); D B S Leslie (London Scottish). 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From John Hennessy
Oporto, Portugal

A fierce wind from the south, along the Atlantic sea board, baring arrows of rain, created havoc on the last day of the Vinho Verde Atlantic Open championship at Estela, 20 miles to the north of Oporto.

From it all, there emerged the unlikely winner after a gripping six-man play-off in Stephen McAllister, who celebrated his 28th birthday last Friday with a prize of £3,330.

McAllister, born in Paisley, had a final round of 74, two over what might laughingly be called par in such conditions, and a total of 288. It is not often that level par is good enough to win a European tournament: but few players could recall conditions as severe as this.

In the event, McAllister was the only player among the six to record a nominal par four at the first extra hole, the 404-yards 10th. This was a formidable proposition into the teeth of the wind and only Richard Boxall, who had shared the lowest round of the day, 71, with Mark Davis, managed to hit the green.

McAllister had felt no nerves on the tee in an unaccustomed position of

Card of the course									
hole	Yds	Par	hole	Yds	Par	hole	Yds	Par	hole
1	487	5	10	404	4	11	367	4	12
2	159	3	12	151	4	13	309	5	14
3	191	4	15	309	5	16	308	5	17
4	426	4	18	388	5	19	327	4	20
5	240	4	21	308	5	22	327	4	23
6	342	4	23	175	3	24	327	4	25
7	400	4	26	351	4	27	327	4	28
Out	3,395	36	In	3,338	36				
Total yds	6,733		Par	72					

Total yds 6,733 Par 72

ruined his chance with a tee shot into the dunes, which left Boxall as the only threat. He was all of 20 yards from the flag on the lower tier, however, and left his first putt disastrously 15 feet short.

McAllister suffers, in these conditions, from wearing spectacles, but once he had got the fourth and fifth out of the way, both one over par, he played the remaining holes in level par with enviable depth of character.

The 17th (173 yards) was crucial. He hit only a seven iron down wind and holed from 15 feet to become involved in the cavalry charge. At the same hole, Sorensen did the reverse. The only player under par, he hit an eight iron into the bunker and failed to get up and down.

The Scot was well short with two woods but played a sweet pitch shot to an elevated green. He holed the 12 foot putt, and thus immediately despatched Stephen Hamill, of Northern Ireland (76 yesterday), and Anders Sorensen, of Denmark (77), who had both pitched too strong.

In the second three-ball, Ronan Rafferty (72), again the favourite to win as he had been before, was struck on Thursday, hit his second into a bunker and his third clean over the green.

David Williams (74) had

eminence. "It was a strange sensation," he said later. "I have never been there before." This was his first victory in a 72-hole tournament, well surpassing his fifth place in the English Open at Royal Birkdale two years ago.

The Scot was well short with two woods but played a sweet



Missing out: Faldo reacts after missing a putt, which opened the way for winner, Norman

Forsman becomes the driving force

San Diego — Prodigious driving by David Forsman, aged 31, one of the longest hitters in the game, gave him a two-stroke lead over Tommy Armour III going into the final round of the \$900,000 Shearson Lehman Hutton Open at Torrey Pines yesterday. John Ballantine writes.

Bob Eastwood, who had led handsomely on Friday night, fell back into third with 76, after failing to cope with strong wind.

Mark O'Meara, with a 67 which was the best card by two strokes and Craig Stadler, with 70, moved menacingly onto 10th, or nine under par. They were only four behind the leader Forsman, who has not won since the 1986 Bay Hill Classic in Orlando and would be the

Norman leaves Faldo deflated

From Mitchell Platits
Golf Correspondent
Melbourne

Greg Norman courageously clawed himself back from the threshold of defeat to win a record sixth Australian Masters here, on the Huntingdale course, and to leave Nick Faldo as deflated as he has been for more than a year.

Norman, four strokes behind Faldo following a seven at the sixth, recovered with four birdies and an eagle to win the Aus\$90,000 first prize with a 68, for a record-equaling total of 273 which is 19 under par.

Faldo, who finished with a 72, surrendered the lead on the 15th green and he was finally compelled to share second place on 275 with Michael Clayton (68), another Australian, and John

Morse, of America, (67).

"How do I feel? Sick," Faldo said. "I would have liked to have started my year with a win. I thought I was going to. I just didn't feel right on the greens. I was trying to find the bottom of the hole."

"It'll be okay by the time I tee up in the Desert Classic, in Dubai, on Thursday. It is just very disappointing."

Norman was elated by his success, which seemed unlikely when, at the sixth, he struck his second shot outside bounds. He finished the hole by marking a seven on his card. His recovery, however, was no less spectacular as he holed from a bunker at the seventh for an eagle three.

Thereafter, Norman walked the course, on the northern edge of

Melbourne's luxuriant sandbelt, with the confident air of a man who felt destiny was on his side, whereas Faldo gradually lost his faith on the greens.

"There is a lot more break in these greens than there looks, and you need to hit the ball firmly at the hole," Faldo said.

"I hit too many putts that died in front of the hole."

The crucial hole was probably the 14th, where Faldo missed from 16 feet, then watched as Norman drew level by holing from 14 feet for a birdie. Norman went on to grasp the lead at the next with a putt of 15 feet for a two, and Faldo lost contact by taking five at the 17th.

Norman disclosed, following the presentation, that he has resigned as a member of the

SNOOKER

Higgins finds the strength

By Steve Acteson

Alex Higgins's 5-3 victory over Bob Harris, to reach the last 32 of the Pearl Assurance British Open in Derby yesterday, should have carried a health warning.

Harris, ranked 93rd in the world, was suffering from influenza while Higgins, struggling hard to recover his place in the top 16, had picked up a chill during his Matchroom International League defeat by Tony Meo, in Finland, on Friday night.

This was then germ warfare with Higgins making the first pre-emptive strike, a clearance of 36, before coughing up further breaks of 34 and 40, lead 3-1.

Harris briefly threatened to reverse the tide by recovering to 4-3 but Higgins won the next on the pink, 6-3-2, and when he was looking forward to seeing who the new format at this tournament — a re-draw after every round — would offer as an opponent next time out and no wonder: assuming Steve Davis beats Kirk Stevens, of Canada, on Tuesday night, Higgins would have been playing the world champion.

Higgins, who boasts only membership of snooker's aristocracy said: "Thank God we've got through and now we can look forward to whenever they make the draw."

Murphy, 11th seed of Scotland, defeated Barry West, 5-0 to earn his first ranking point of the season and guaranteed prize-money of £1,634 which almost doubles his season's total. The father of four girls, he has also lost £8,000 sponsorship because of the economic climate but the former baker said he is not yet won selection at Commonwealth Games.

RESULTS: Third round (England unless otherwise stated): 1. Higgins 5-3 Harris; 2. Murphy 5-0 West; 3. Davis 5-3 Stevens; 4. Davis 5-3 Murphy; 5. Higgins 5-3 Harris; 6. Murphy 5-0 West; 7. Murphy 5-0 Davis; 8. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 9. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 10. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 11. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 12. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 13. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 14. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 15. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 16. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 17. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 18. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 19. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 20. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 21. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 22. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 23. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 24. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 25. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 26. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 27. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 28. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 29. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 30. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 31. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 32. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 33. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 34. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 35. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 36. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 37. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 38. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 39. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 40. Higgins 5-3 Murphy; 41. 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FOOTBALL: SOUTHAMPTON STAGE A BRAVE REARGUARD ACTION AS LIVERPOOL SLIP INTO OVERDRIVE AND GO THROUGH TO LAST EIGHT IN FA CUP

Anfield crowd given a glimpse of the double double form

By Stuart Jones
Football CorrespondentLiverpool 3
Southampton 0

Nobody at Anfield is talking about the prospect, naturally enough, but Liverpool are edging towards another historic feat. A dozen League fixtures away from regaining the championship, they are three FA Cup ties away from retaining the trophy and becoming the first club to achieve the double twice.

If they close the season as they finished the fifth-round game on Saturday, their name will again be inscribed on both titles. Chris Nicholl, Southampton's manager, was not outrageously extravagant in describing them as "exceptional" once they had scored their second goal. "Their play was terrific," he said.

By then the sun was shining on Liverpool, they knew they were through to the last eight and indulged in all manner of party tricks. Their exhibition of telepathic movement and precise passing prompted Clegg and Lee to hail their former colleagues as "the best in the world at that."

Although Liverpool did eventually earn the lavish plaudits, it was a match not so much of two halves but of two thirds and a third. For an hour

they were heavily restricted by their own inability to evade the offside trap, and by the efficiency of Southampton's defence.

Southampton's attack was diminished as soon as Le Tissier, their leading scorer, was ruled out with a sprained ankle in the morning. They were, nevertheless, the first to create an opening when Venison allowed Rodney Wallace a free, if awkward, volley. He missed his side's last genuine chance of becoming only the second visitors to claim an FA Cup victory at Anfield in 21 years.

"The first goal is especially important here," Nicol said. "If they get it, you know you are in trouble." Before the interval Liverpool had and Southampton were.

For 40 minutes, though,

Moore and Osman shackled Beardsey and Rusu, and Ray Wallace, the replacement for Le Tissier, assisted Horne in imprisoning Barnes. Liverpool were ushered, often sideways, and occasionally, backwards until, through several pieces of quick thinking at a short corner, they caught their opponents unawares for once.

LIVERPOOL: G Grobbelaar; G Hyren, B Venison, S Nicol, R Whelan, P Beardsey, D Burrows, I Rusu, J Barnes (sub: R Houghton), S McLean. SOUTHPAMPTON: T Flowers; B Horne, F Barwell, J Clegg, K Moore, R Barnes, Ray Wallace, D Venison, S O'Connor, D Ridout, A Stewart (sub: N McLean), Rodney Wallace.

Referee: N Murphy.

Spirited Barnsley earn their reward

By Ian Ross

Sheffield United 2
Barnsley 2

South Yorkshire must wait until Wednesday evening before discovering which of these two sides will move forward to represent the region in the quarter-finals of the FA Cup.

Although Barnsley will regard the result as a moral victory, such is their plight at the foot of the second division, they will also rue their failure to punish an often careless Sheffield United defence. The fact of the matter is that their opponents will enter the replay at Oakwell as firm favourites, if only because they have, of late, performed with more composure away from Bramall Lane.

Since taking over as manager at Barnsley, Mel Machin has striven to instil a sense of adventure into a side which has always been renowned for its physical presence and little more.

On the evidence of yesterday's commendable display it would seem that he has succeeded to a certain degree.

"I would have been happy with this result before we came here but in the event I think we should have won it," Machin said.

In an opening half which contained much good football and numerous chances for both sides, Barnsley excelled, and succeeded in reaching United's strangely lethargic rearguard as early as the third minute.

After Tracey, the United goalkeeper, had turned Glover's shot behind, Smith rose smartly

Whether or not Barnsley felt

to head home a corner by Robinson which should have been cleared, against the run of play, the home side drew level with a stroke from the quiet-vaulting attacking partnership of Agama and Deane for once gelled.

Agama drove his partner's cross from the left into the body of Baker, the Barnsley goalkeeper, and the ball fell kindly for Bradshaw who lunged forward to score from close range.

Had Barnsley then decided to

adopt a more defensive strategy their caution would have been perfectly understandable.

Perhaps surprisingly, they refused to surrender the initiative and were rewarded with a second goal after 15 minutes when Cooper headed home at the far post after Glover's cross had hit Tracey's boot and looped over a defender.

A disappointing second half was not only for United's second equalizing goal, after 47 minutes, when Bryson swept the ball home after Hill's ferocious drive from 30 yards had come into play on the underside of the crossbar.

David Bisset, the Sheffield United manager, was far from happy with his side's performance.

"We're naive and were hit by two sucker punches.

We sat back and let them come at us. Our back four did not take the initiative at all," he said.

SHEFFIELD UNITED: S Tracey, C Hill, D Barnes, S Whelan (sub: B Baker), P Staniford, M Morris, C Bradshaw (sub: D Whitehouse), J Gannon, T Agama, B Deane, J Baker, S Lowndes, G Taggart, P Fletcher, M Shotton, M Smith (sub: P Cross), M Robinson (sub: D Forsten), I Banks, L Glover, S Agama, S Cooper. Referee: D Elyer.

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the initiative at all," he said.

Sheffield United 2
Barnsley 2

Oldham Athletic 2
Everton 2

This was far too good a tie to be described as an anti-climax after the extraordinary performance by Oldham Athletic at Boundary Park on Wednesday. Yet still is the level of achievement of the Latics in cup competition this season that cannot be matched with Everton on Saturday was no more than they expected or deserved.

If Joe Robbie, the Oldham manager, was slightly blase about it afterwards, who could blame him? Not since Oldham missed out on the League championship 75 years ago by a single point (in Everton as it so happened), have they had as much to crow about.

Convincing winners against Arsenal and Southampton in the Littlewoods Cup, they might easily have added the notable scalp of Everton in the fifth round of the Merseyside club's favourite competition, but for some stubborn goalkeeping from Southall, and may yet do so in the replay at Goodison Park on Wednesday.

"We were not as fluent as we have been in recent weeks," Robbie said. He was more disappointed at Oldham's inability to stretch themselves a little further for the winner than he was pleased at the clarity they had shown in recovering the one-goal deficit. "We've done that many times this season. We like making it interesting," he said.

It was justification for a little cynicism from Royle.

"It should be a good tie on Wednesday. I believe the pitch is quite flat

and there's not much one can do."

Three goals up the tie might have been over. The trouble was that Everton thought that it was at two goals up. They started the second half back on their haunches by choice, and stayed

on safer ground after last season's Littlewoods Cup victory on the artificial pitch, they played with greater self-assurance than most visitors to Boundary Park. They have the necessary fine skills to perform on such a surface. Yet the pitch performed very normally, a lot more so than most pitches this time of year. One forgot all about it as soon as the game began.

There was an accuracy about

Everton's work in the first half that made Oldham look temporarily, what they are, temporarily, second division. Not the least was inspiring about Everton was the understanding of Sharp and Cotter.

The Oldham supporters will be relieved to hear that that is not always the case.

Nevertheless, Sharp's 22nd-minute goal, scored with a deliberately swaying right foot following a miskick by Barret, did look impressive, as did the Cotter header which put Sharp clear four minutes later. Despite Marshall's illegal attempt to stop the Scot, and Hallsworth's blunder, Cotter followed up to score.

That goal did Everton no favours, though it might have been denied had Cotter not been denied shortly before half-time when Hallsworth stoned spinidly, reaching behind himself to save the Everton man's fierce long-range drive with one hand.

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Nevertheless, Sharp's 22nd-

minute goal, scored with a deliberately swaying right foot following a miskick by Barret, did look impressive, as did the Cotter header which put Sharp clear four minutes later. Despite Marshall's illegal attempt to

stop the Scot, and Hallsworth's blunder, Cotter followed up to score.

That goal did Everton no favours, though it might have been denied had Cotter not been denied shortly before half-time when Hallsworth stoned spinidly, reaching behind himself to save the Everton man's fierce long-range drive with one hand.

At three goals up the tie might have been over. The trouble was that Everton thought that it was at two goals up. They started the second half back on their haunches by choice, and stayed

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CRICKET

Players are forced to risk injury to appease spectators

From Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent
Port of Spain

SCOREBOARD FROM PORT OF SPAIN

ENGLAND: G A Gooch, W Larikins, R A Smith, A J Lamb, A J Stewart, D J Capel, T R C Russell, C C Lewis, E E Hemmings, G C Small, A R C Fraser. England won toss

WEST INDIES

	6a	4a	Miss	Balls
C G Greenidge not out	8	1	28	19
H R Haynes not out	4	-	28	16
Extras (6 1)				1
Total (Overd)				13

R B Richardson, C L Hooper, C A Beaz, J V A Richards, E A Moseley, M D Marshall, R J D Lyon, I R Bishop, C A Welsh did not bat.

BOWLING: Small 3-1-7-0; Fraser 2-5-0-5-0

Umpires D Archer and C Cumberbatch

eral times for further supplies of sawdust to be spread on the run-ups where Fraser and Small were both losing their feet. Between overs, down at fine-leg, Fraser found water sloshing over his boots.

Although the pitch was the same one which had behaved blamelessly last Wednesday, it too had suffered from the weather, sweating under the plastic covers so that both the England seam bowlers made the odd ball rear unpleasantly.

All things considered, both teams can be grateful to have emerged unscathed from a thoroughly unsatisfactory day.

"Conditions were not up to standard," said Gooch yesterday, while Micky Stewart, the team manager, amplified the point by saying: "In those circumstances you just hope you don't get an injury."

An unwelcome side effect of Trinidad's worst February weather in years has been to minimize England's Test match preparation. Several of the party have played only one match on tour and the three-day game against Jamaica, starting in Kingston today, will dictate how much England place in spin, arguably their strongest suit.

Hard though it will seem on Rob Bailey and Nasser Hussain, whose opportunities already look limited on this tour, England are obliged to persist with Alec Stewart, at No. 3, as he is alone among the newcomers in having runs behind him.

The bowling options are not much greater. Devon Malcolm must play on his native island, for it is here that his worth as a shock weapon must be tested, and the look of the Sabina Park pitch will dictate how much faith England place in spin, arguably their strongest suit.

The 1-1 draw with Pakistan on Saturday gave way to speculation that England might still be in with a chance if they had beaten the Germans and if the Germans lost to Pakistan. But dreams did not come true and today's match between Pakistan and West Germany is purely academic, both teams having made sure of their place in the semi-finals.

England, having finished fourth in Group B, can look forward only to playing off for fifth to eighth places. They must finish in the top six to qualify for the next World Cup. Their first opponents in the play-off series will be either France or Argentina.

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Rain had fallen all through the morning. The amount of water on the artificial turf pitch suggested that there was little or no drainage, making a difference to the quality of the play.

West Germany played themselves into a comfortable position by converting two short boundaries, the first by Fischer in the eighth minute and the second by Fried three minutes before the interval. Fischer had made a couple of early mistakes which could have proved costly, but placed his shot beyond the reach of Taylor, who had unfortunately conceded the corner to Kerly.

Kerly's effort was to earn England a short corner which ended with Grimley missing the target. The whole team then moved forward with greater determination and once again it was Kerly who led the assault, this time clearing the way for Soma Singh to score with nine minutes to go.

The 1-1 draw between Pakistan and England on Saturday was a tough and unrelenting match in which England survived long spells of pressure.

After Mayer had given England the lead in the 23rd minute, Kerly put the ball just over the top in his attempt to score on the rebound.

In the 56th minute Khalid Basha converted the tenth of Pakistan's 13 short corners, but they had bad luck towards the end when Tariq Shiekh, their centre forward, hit a post.

England's defence caused Schleemann, their goalkeeper, to make a hasty clearance with his stick, thus denying Kerly a shot.

The short corner from which Fried scored was a brilliant flick into the net. It was the result of Faulkner's inability to intercept a centre from the right by falling on the ball.

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